

In Attendance

FAO:	Hiroto Mitsugi (Chair)	IUCN:	Adriana Vidal
	Peter Csoka	IUFRO:	John Parrotta
CBD:	Alexander Shestakov*		Andre Purret
	Blaise Bodin*	UNCCD:	Sasha Alexander
CIFOR:	Steve Lawry	UNDP:	Kimberly Todd
GEF:	Gustavo Fonseca (Vice-Chair)	UNFCCC:	Jenny Wong*
	Ulrich Apel	UNFF:	Juwang Zhu
ITTO:	Sheam Satkuru		Hossein Moeini Meybodi
			Ryo Nakamura

* via audio-conference

Regrets: CITES, ICRAF, UNEP, WB

Members of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests (CPF) met at UNHQ, New York on 5 May 2019.

1. Welcome by the Chair and adoption of the Agenda

Hiroto Mitsugi, Chair of the Partnership, welcomed members. The proposed agenda for the meeting was adopted with the addition of the request for the Partnership's membership under agenda item 6. Any other business.

2. Update on UNFF14 and CPF's roles under UNFF14 agenda items

The UNFF Secretariat provided updates on the UNFF14 provisional organization of work, highlighting the nature of the session for implementation and technical advice and outlining CPF's expected roles under different UNFF14 agenda items and panel discussions, including: i) technical discussions on UNFF14 thematic priorities (item 3a); ii) the UN system contribution to the implementation of the UNSPF 2030 (item 3c); iii) monitoring, assessment and reporting, including the initial idea for the flagship publication (item 4); iii) means of implementation, including activities and operation of GFFN (item 5); iv) enhanced global forest policy coherence and a common international understanding of sustainable forest management (item 6); and v) enhanced cooperation, coordination and engagement on forest-related issues (item 7).

The UNFF Secretariat added that the UNFF14 Chair's summary would include a summary of technical discussions on UNFF14 thematic priorities for transmission to UNFF15, the UNFF14 input to the 2019 High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development, as well as an indicative list of potential intersessional activities.

3. Implementation of the CPF Work Plan

a. Review of the updated work plan

Based on the draft updated CPF work plan for 2017-2020 that had been circulated prior to the meeting, members reviewed the updates for 2019-2020, including those on the status of implementation of the ongoing

Joint Initiatives, the status of development of the Joint Initiatives in the pipeline, workplan actions for 2019 and 2020, as well as the inclusion of additional guidance received from governing bodies of members. Some members suggested to include in the work plan a summary of the outcomes achieved through the completed Joint Initiatives, such as the 2018 CPF Conference. Other suggestions included: inclusion of the CPF's participation and contribution to the post-2020 global biodiversity framework, particularly for the development of its forest-related targets; continuous development of the Joint Initiatives in the pipeline and new Joint Initiatives in response to donors' interests; inclusion of activities related to the development of a CPF strategic vision towards 2030; and the possibility to develop additional activities and initiatives on forest landscape restoration in view of the high level of donors' interests in this theme.

It was agreed that these proposals will be investigated further for possible inclusion in future workplans, but given the proximity of UNFF14, the current review will not open new avenues, rather, the missing information should be provided and the workplan finalized by Monday, 6 May.

b. CPF at CITES COP18, UNCCD COP14, UNFCCC COP25

Members explored possible CPF participation in the forthcoming major meetings of members to strengthen the visibility of the Partnership among forest and non-forest stakeholders. Recalling the decision at the 2018 Retreat several members suggested to consider re-establishing forest day at the UNFCCC COP25 and contributing to the 2019 UN Climate Action Summit through the participation in member's side event and the submission of CPF's input to the Nature-based Solutions track of the summit led by China and New Zealand with the support of UNEP and Mr. David Nabarro, as well as through the Chair's letter addressed to the UN Secretary-General to communicate the Partnership's readiness to support and promote contributions of forests to sustainable development. Other suggestions included: organization of a GFFFN side event at UNCCD COP14 and UNFCCC COP25.

Key actions to be taken:

- FAO will explore possibilities for the CPF to participate and contribute to the UNCCD COP14, the 2019 UN Climate Action Summit, and UNFCCC COP25;
- UNFF will consult with UNEP regarding the possible modality of the CPF contribution to the 2019 UN Climate Action Summit through its Nature-based Solutions track.

c. Update on recent Joint Initiatives activities and JIs in the pipeline

2019 Wangari Maathai Forest Champion Award

FAO informed that the call for nominations of the 2019 Wangari Maathai Forest Champion Award (WMA) has been shared with members for circulation, noting that the award ceremony will be held on 30 September 2019, in Curitiba, Brazil during the IUFRO Congress. It was added that the deadline for the submission of the nominations will be extended by one month, while also considering the jury candidates proposed by IUFRO and IUCN.

FAO also informed that the Communicators' Network considered and proposed the theme of the 2020 International Day of Forests to be "Forests and biodiversity", taking into account the ongoing development of the 2020 global biodiversity framework. It was suggested to align the future themes of the day with those of the High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development.

Sustainable Wood for a Sustainable World

ITTO shared that it received a seed funding from Germany to initiate project activities in Africa as part of its contribution to the initiative. FAO outlined the outcome of the expert meeting "Catalyzing private finance for inclusive and sustainable forest value chains" held on 2-3 April 2019 in FAO HQ, Rome.

Streamlining Forest-related Reporting

FAO shared an update on the recent activities of streamlining forest-related reporting, highlighting its work to further develop the Tier 3 indicators of the Global Core Set of forest-related indicators. It was added that the whole set is expected to be made available for use by 2020.

Forest Landscape Restoration

IUCN provided an overview of the current status of the implementation of the two-year initiative, highlighting that 90% of its planned activities under four main components is under implementation by lead members. It was added that the Steering Committee will meet on 10 May 2019 and consider the use of the remaining funds of the project. ITTO clarified that its ongoing activities under the “Voluntary Guidelines for the Design and Implementation of successful FLR Initiatives in the Tropics” will contribute to the initiative as part of its components.

Global Forest Expert Panels

IUFRO informed that the theme of the next Global Forest Expert Panel assessment is forests and poverty, noting that its initial assessment is scheduled to be presented during UNFF15 with the final assessment and its report to be launched in September 2020. IUFRO also invited members to the scoping meeting of the assessment to be held from 23-24 May 2019 in FAO HQ, Rome, in preparation for the first meeting of the panel scheduled in August 2019.

Green Finance for Sustainable Landscapes

GEF provided an update on the status of the development of the initiative, outlining the scope of the revised proposal, including a log frame, budget plan and initial funding requirements. Members considered the importance to involve the private finance sector in the planned activities, building on the existing activities of CPF members, in order to expand the scale of private finance and its information basis. Members subsequently approved the initiative.

Pathway for Designing a Mechanism to Incentivize Deforestation-Free Landscapes and Value Chains for Green Growth

ITTO shared an update on the development of the initiative, highlighting the compendium developed through the October 2018 workshop with the possibility to conduct six country case studies with a focus on countries in Africa. It was suggested by some members to ensure complementary with the activities to be implemented under other Joint Initiatives particularly those under the Sustainable Wood for a Sustainable World and the Green Finance for Sustainable Landscapes.

Key actions to be taken:

- Members to indicate their contribution to the prize for the Wangari Maathai Award; and send jury nominations;
- Members are invited to participate in the scoping meeting of the Global Forest Expert Panel assessment on forests and poverty to be held from 23-24 May 2019, FAO HQ, Rome;
- GEF, CIFOR and UNEP will prepare the implementation of the JI on Green Finance for Sustainable Landscapes following its approval.

d. CPF Donor Meeting

Following the introduction on the subject matter by the CPF Chair and based on the draft agenda of the third CPF donor meeting circulated prior to the meeting, members considered possible approaches to strengthen the dialogue with donor countries and possible modalities of the future donor meetings.

Members suggested providing a brief presentation of the updated CPF work plan at the donor meeting to be followed by the presentation of a set of pre-selected joint initiatives to focus the discussion and facilitate donors to identify funding opportunities. It was suggested to continue to hold donor meetings on the margins of the future UNFF sessions to identify and inform the Partnership's resource needs.

Key actions to be taken:

- FAO and ITTO will present the Joint Initiative on Sustainable Wood for a Sustainable World at the third CPF donor meeting;
- GEF will present the Joint Initiative on Green Finance for Sustainable Landscapes at the third CPF donor meeting;
- Members will continue to develop new Joint Initiatives proposals, taking into account donors' interests and funding opportunities.

4. Discussion and decision on next steps and timetable for developing the CPF strategic vision towards 2030

Based on a think piece on "Development of the CPF strategic vision towards 2030" circulated prior to the meeting, members discussed possible next steps and timetable for the development of the CPF strategic vision towards 2030.

UNFFS proposed to conduct an analytical study to identify possible key elements for the vision, noting the importance to build on the past capacity mapping exercises and ensure coherence and linkages with other study to be undertaken by UNFF on global forest policy coherence and a common international understanding on sustainable forest management.

Other suggestions by members included: hiring of an independent facilitator to facilitate the work of the working group; and need to identify key components of the vision, including objectives, list of goals and targets, connections with GFGs and SDGs, and response to guidance from members' governing bodies.

Key actions to be taken:

- The Chair in consultation with the secretariat will prepare concept note regarding the draft terms of reference for the proposed analytical study for members' consideration;
- The Chair in consultation with the secretariat will propose the date, time and venue, as well as draft programme of the working group meeting and request nomination from members for the working group.

5. Policy matters

a. Next steps on the new focal agency system

Based on a note "Establishing a focal agency system in the CPF" circulated prior to the meeting, members discussed possible next steps to decide on the relevance of the new focal agency system of the Partnership.

Members considered the developments on the work of the Partnership since the development of the Policy Document, especially the growing importance of the JIs, made the system less relevant, and agreed to change the respective part of the CPF Policy Document as follows:

"Focal agencies The Collaborative Partnership on Forests ~~has designated~~ **may designate** focal agencies for the elements addressed in its workplan, following a principle of shared responsibility. This division of responsibility is based on the mandate, competence, resources and comparative advantage of each member."

Key actions to be taken:

- Members will revisit the issue on the new focal agency system as necessary after the CPF strategic vision towards 2030 has been developed.

b. Next steps on stakeholder involvement

Members explored the possible next steps to organize the first CPF dialogue on the margins of UNFF15 in 2020. Members highlighted the importance to identify target stakeholder groups to partner with for the organization of the dialogue. It was suggested to set a theme to guide the dialogue. Other suggestions included: organization of the dialogue as a UNFF side event; organization of the dialogue outside the UN premises to ease stakeholders' access to venue; and inviting relevant stakeholders to provide inputs to the CPF work plan for the period 2021-2024.

Key actions to be taken:

- The Chair in consultation with the secretariat will develop and circulate a concept note of the first CPF Dialogue for members' consideration; and
- Members are encouraged to identify partner with relevant stakeholders in the planning and implementation of their respective Joint Initiatives.

6. Any other business

a. Update on forthcoming meetings of members

ITTO invited members to actively participate in the forthcoming 55th Session of the International Tropical Timber Council (ITTC-55) to be held from 2-7 December 2019 in Lomé, Togo, including through the participation and organization of a panel session during the session.

CIFOR informed that the main Global Landscapes Forum for 2019 will be held from 22-23 June 2019 in Bonn, Germany, whereas the Global Landscapes Forum Accra 2019 will focus on forest and landscape restoration work in Africa and is scheduled to be held from 30-31 October 2019.

IUFRO provided updates on the preparations for the 2019 IUFRO Congress (29 September-5 October 2019, Curitiba, Brazil), inviting members to actively participate in the scientific programme and the Wangari Maathai Award ceremony during the congress, noting that over 3000 participants are expected to attend the congress.

FAO shared that the 60th Session of its Advisory Committee on Sustainable Forest-based Industries is scheduled to be held on 7 May 2019 in Vancouver, Canada. It was added that the 2019 session of the FAO Regional Forestry Commissions will include: the 28th Session of the Asia-Pacific Forestry Commission and Asia-Pacific Forestry Week 2019 (17-21 June, Incheon, Republic of Korea); the 31st Session of the Latin American and Caribbean Forestry Commission (2-6 September, Montevideo, Uruguay); the 30th session of the North American Forest Commission (9-12 September, Missoula, US); and the 22nd Session of the African Forestry and Wildlife Commission (18-22 November, Skukuza Mpumalanga, South Africa).

b. 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 the UNCCD COP (2-13 September 2019, New Delhi, India) or IUFRO Congress (29 September - 5 October 2019, Curitiba, Brazil).

c. Request for CPF membership

The Chair informed members of the document submitted by the International Forestry Students' Association regarding their interest in the Partnership's membership. Members highlighted the importance to take a consistent approach to membership issues based on common criteria and gap analysis.

Key actions to be taken:

- Members will indicate their availability and preference for the next regular meeting.

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