

Questionnaire on the Forum's 4POW 2021-2024

1. Thematic priorities: The 4POW 2021-2024 consists of two technical-policy biennium: 2021-2022 and 2023-2024. Consistent with Annex II of ECOSOC resolution 2017/4, the Forum's odd- and even-year sessions for each biennium will be thematically linked on the basis of the GFGs and targets, taking into account the post-2020 programme of work of the High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (HLPF). In order to carry out this guidance, would it be useful for the work programme to (check one):
- Identify three GFGs and associated targets as thematic priorities for a technical exchange of experiences among Member States and partners and a subsequent policy review in each biennium (progress on all GFGs are reviewed in the four-year period), taking into account the post 2020 HLPF programme of work? OR
 - Leave the decision on which GFGs will be the themes for each biennium to the Bureau (current practice) in order to take into account, the post-2020 HLPF programme of work, which is expected to be agreed upon before the end of 2019? OR
 - Other** (please explain- Maximum 100 words)

Recommend a hybrid of the above two options where 1) we allow consideration of this issue by the member states and partners in the plenary of UNFF15 so as to adequately consider options for topics, and then 2) the Bureau makes a decision on which GFGs based on the discussion had in plenary.

2. Operational priorities: The 4POW 2021-2024 represents the Forum's contribution to implementing the UN Strategic Plan for Forests 2017-2030 (UNSPF). In your view, what are the Forum's main operational priorities in support of the UNSPF during this timeframe (check all that apply):
- YES** Means of implementation for sustainable forest management (including GFFFN operations and resources)
 - YES** MAR (follow up on the flagship publication and timing for 2nd round of national reporting)
 - VNCs (announcements, implementation support and follow up)
 - YES** Communication and outreach (including International Day of Forests)
 - Preparations for mid-term review of the International Arrangement on Forests in 2024¹
 - YES** Preparations for the High-Level Segment at the Forum's session in 2024,
 - Other (please list)

¹ Consistent with section XII of ECOSOC resolution 2015/33 and paragraph 66 of the UNSPF 2030

3. Other elements: In addition to the Forum's thematic and operational priorities, what other elements should be reflected during 4POW 2021-2024 (check all that apply):

- a. **YES** Contribution of CPF and its member organizations to UNSPF 2030 implementation,
- b. Contribution of regional/subregional and Major Group partners to UNSPF 2030 implementation
- c. **YES** Post-2020 global framework for biodiversity under the Convention on Biological Diversity
- d. The initial global stock-taking under the Paris Agreement (to be conducted in 2023)
- e. Other (please list)

4. Technical sessions: Based on the experience of the 4POW 2017-2020, how could the Forum's technical sessions in 2021 and 2023 be organized to enhance the exchange of experiences and interaction among Member States, CPF and its member organizations, and regional/subregional and Major Group partners, and to address the science-policy interface (check all that apply):

- a. **YES** Reduce the number of panels to allow more time for exchange of experiences among participants
Important that if an interactive session is scheduled, that the time allowed and structure of the session allows for interaction (not just a set of interventions following presentation and a short time at end for a one line response from panelists). The 4POW 2017-2021 has had mixed success in this area, and some will come down to Chairing of sessions, which needs to be disciplined.
- b. Include a panel on the science-policy interface on the thematic priorities identified for each biennium
- c. **Minimize**/eliminate the time allocated for opening general statements
These don't need to be eliminated, but perhaps a time limit for interventions for this session only, and to encourage regional statements so less time taken up by individual states.
- d. Provide space for exhibits and/or training activities to highlight best practices
- e. Other (please list)
Circulating background material before sessions is very helpful as it gives States (and others) time and space to form useful questions and comments on the topics at hand. In recent sessions the best interactive examples came from panels where information had been previously circulated. Circulating the actual presentations beforehand can also be useful when practical.