



DEPARTMENT OF
**ECONOMIC AND
SOCIAL AFFAIRS**



**SDG
Pavilion**



**UN CLIMATE
CHANGE
CONFERENCE
UK 2021**
IN PARTNERSHIP WITH ITALY

CONCEPT NOTE

Advancing Implementation of the Paris Agreement Through Making Progress Towards the Global Forest Goals

UNFFS/DESA SDG Pavilion event at UNFCCC COP26

5 November 2021, 3:00 to 4:15 PM (UK Time)

Glasgow, UK/Virtual

BACKGROUND

1. The UN Strategic Plan for Forests 2030 (UNSPF)¹ provides a global framework for actions at all levels to sustainably manage all types of forests and trees outside forests, and to halt deforestation and forest degradation. The landmark agreement was forged at a special session of the UN Forum on Forests in January 2017 and subsequently adopted by the UN General Assembly in April 2017.
2. At the heart of the Strategic Plan are six Global Forest Goals (GFGs) and 26 associated targets to be achieved by 2030. The Goals and targets support the objectives of the International Arrangement on Forests and aim to contribute to progress on the Sustainable Development Goals, the Rio conventions, the Paris Agreement under the UNFCCC, and other international forest-related instruments, and processes.
3. National reports from Member States are one of the main sources of information to assess progress towards the achievement of the GFGs and targets. In response to a request from the Forum at its thirteenth session in 2018, a concise flagship publication on progress towards achieving the GFGs was developed using national reports as the basis. This publication was successfully launched at the sixteenth session of the Forum in April 2021.
4. The “Global Forest Goals Report 2021” is the first flagship publication² produced by the UN Forum on Forests Secretariat (UNFFS) of the UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA). The publication presents an overview of progress towards implementing the Strategic Plan and showcases the wide range of actions taken by Member States in their efforts to achieve the GFGs. The report identifies challenges and areas where more action is needed to support implementation of sustainable forest

¹ <https://www.un.org/esa/forests/documents/un-strategic-plan-for-forests-2030/index.html>

² <https://www.un.org/esa/forests/outreach/global-forests-goal-report-2021/index.html>

management. The publication also demonstrates how interlinkages exist, and that progress toward the GFGs has contributed to progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals, and the objectives of the Paris Agreement, among others. Lastly, the report also contains several “success stories” to illustrate best practice and innovative approaches.

5. The publication is based on fifty-two national reports³ submitted by Member States to the Forum, as well as nineteen voluntary national contributions announced by Member States in support of the Strategic Plan. The information from national reports is supplemented with bio-physical data from the FAO Global Forest Resources Assessment 2020⁴.

OBJECTIVES

6. This side event aims to share the key findings of the Global Forest Goals Report 2021 and showcase the significance of the GFGs for advancing implementation of the Paris Agreement. The event also provides an opportunity to share experiences and lessons-learned in reporting on the progress towards the GFGs, and promote a more synergetic vision towards reporting on, and amplified actions for the implementation of the UNSPF and the Paris Agreement.

EXPECTED OUTCOMES

7. The event is expected to increase awareness of the critical role of forests in addressing the challenges of climate change and achieving the Sustainable Development Goals of the 2030 Agenda and the objectives of the Paris Agreement through the implementation of the UNSPF. It should also serve to strengthen monitoring of progress and identifying obstacles in achieving the GFGs through periodic assessments such as the Global Forest Goals Report.

PARTICIPANTS

8. The event will be open to all participants from governments, UN system, international organizations, civil society, private sector, academia and general public.

MODALITIES

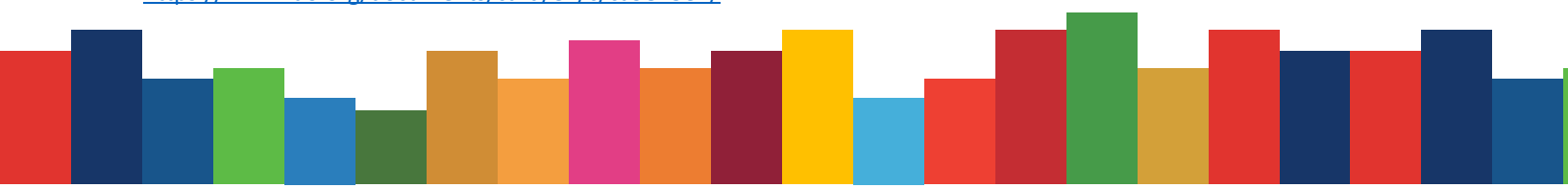
9. The event is part of the programme of events for the DESA SDG Pavilion at the UNFCCC COP 26. The event will take place from 3:00 to 4:15 pm (Glasgow time) on Friday, 5 November 2021. The event will be promoted on UN DESA’s social media accounts and a brief summary of the event will be published on the UNFF website following the event.

LANGUAGE

The event will be held in English.

³ <https://www.un.org/esa/forests/documents/national-reports/unff15/index.html>

⁴ <https://www.fao.org/documents/card/en/c/ca9825en/>





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PROGRAMME

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5 November 2021, 3:00 to 4:15 PM (UK Time)

Glasgow, UK/Virtual

MODERATOR: **Mr. Hossein Moeini-Meybodi**, UN Forum on Forests Secretariat (UNFFS), DESA

KEYNOTE: **Mr. Liu Zhenmin**, Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs, DESA

SPEAKERS:

Mr. Jesse Mahoney, Vice-Chair of the UN Forum on Forests 16/17 Bureau Counsellor (Agriculture), Embassy of Australia, Washington DC

Ms. Mette Wilkie, Director, Forestry Division, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

Ms. Davia N K Carty, Senior Director, Strategic Corporate Planning- Forestry Department, Jamaica

Mr. Tomasz Juszczak, UN Forum on Forests Secretariat (UNFFS), DESA

JOIN AT: <https://undesa.webex.com/undesa/j.php?MTID=m18cffe3ab46439e3fafbfdf4213ad240>
Event password: Event1234



The **UN Strategic Plan for Forests 2030** (UNSPF) provides a global framework for actions at all levels to sustainably manage all types of forests and trees outside forests, and to halt deforestation and forest degradation. The Plan features a set of six Global Forest Goals and 26 associated targets to be reached by 2030, which are voluntary and universal.

SDG Pavilion <https://www.un.org/en/COP26/SDGPavilion> | UN Forum on Forests <https://www.un.org/esa/forests>