



Friends of the CPF Meeting

Meeting report

11 May 2022 at 19:15h CEST/13:15h EDT
via Microsoft Teams

In Attendance

CPF Members: FAO (Tiina Vahanen, Malgorzata Buszko-Briggs, Thais Linhares-Juvenal), GEF (Pascal Martinez, Teayeon Kim), ITTO (Sheam Satkuru), IUFRO (John Parrotta, Alexander Buck, Andre Purret, Christoph Wildburger, Dikshya Devkota), UNDP (Tim Scott, Jie Deng), UNEP (Gretel Gambarelli), UNFCCC (Jenny Wong), UNFF (Juliette Biao, Ryo Nakamura), WB (Muhammad Najeeb Khan)

Members of the UNFF: Austria (Gerfried Gruber, Stefanie Brandstetter), Australia (Jesse Mahoney, Katie Stokes), Czech Republic (Tomáš Krejzar), France (Isabelle Mellier), Germany (Thomas Baldauf), Japan (Hideki Kawai), Malaysia (Choon Keat Chan, Yang Aishah Adnan), Peru (Próspero Yance), Portugal (Conceição Ferreira), Switzerland (Sibylle Vermont, Keith Anderson), USA (Jennifer Conje)

Summary of the meeting

Members of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests (CPF) held the Friends of the CPF Meeting on 11 May 2022 on the margins of UNFF17 in a virtual format.

Item 1. Welcome by the Chair

Ms. Tiina Vahanen on behalf of the CPF Chair welcomed representatives of the UNFF Members and CPF Members to the meeting.

Item 2. Report of the CPF activities in 2021-2022

Ms. Juliette Biao provided an overview of outcomes of the CPF activities undertaken since UNFF16, highlighting launch of the CPF Joint Statement “Challenges and opportunities in turning the tide on deforestation” during UNFF16; migration of the CPF website; implementation of 10 Joint Initiatives; CPF events held during the 2021 HLPF, UNFCCC COP26, the XV World Forestry Congress; and contribution to the UNFF intersessional activities.

Item 3. Presentations of selected CPF Joint Initiatives

a. Turning the Tide on Deforestation

FAO presented the status of the planned JI on Turning the Tide on Deforestation, noting that the initial focus of the JI activities will be to map out the UN system’s and CPF’s work and initiatives on deforestation to identify gaps and develop a global action plan on turning the tide on deforestation to be launched at UNFCCC COP27. The JI activities will also build on existing projects and activities by the CPF members such as the FAO’s studies on drivers of deforestation and on the assessment of the REDD-plus measures. It was added that the publication of CPF members’ flagship initiatives on deforestation was launched during UNFCCC COP26 and is available on the CPF website.

b. Global Forest Expert Panels

IUFRO outlined an overview of the JI on the Global Forest Expert Panels (GFEP) and its recent activities, highlighting ongoing preparations for the GFEP assessment on forests and human health with a focus on varied relationships and interlinkages between human health and the conservation, restoration and sustainable management of forests. The assessment report and its accompanying policy brief on forests and human health are scheduled to

be finalized and launched in March 2023. It was added that the GFEP assessments could be used as briefing documents for relevant intergovernmental processes on forests, including those of the Global Forest Goals and the SDGs.

c. Sustainable Wood for a Sustainable World

ITTO provided an overview of the outcomes of recent activities undertaken under the JI on Sustainable Wood for a Sustainable World, including: organization of the International Conferences in 2017 and 2019, regional dialogues, capacity building and training projects in Africa, and projects on sustainable consumption in Asia, a survey of the impacts of COVID-19 on wood value chains and preparation of a policy brief. FAO added that the proposal for a global communication campaign "Grow the solution" was launched during the XV World Forest Congress.

d. Forest Education

IUFRO outlined the outcomes of recent activities undertaken under the JI on Forest Education, including: first-ever global survey on forest education, organization of regional consultations and a international conference on forest education, launch of e-learning course in legal and sustainable supply chains, development of a prototype of a global online gateway to forest education resources "forestra". It was added that IUFRO would like to develop "forestra" into a fully functional platform to provide easy access to a range of educational resources that can facilitate to fill gaps in curriculum at the various levels of education and improve the integration of traditional and indigenous forest-related knowledge into forest education and training systems.

e. Forest Fires

FAO introduced the planned JI on Forest Fires and outlined a plan to establish a global fire management platform in partnership with UNEP to respond to countries' demands to reduce the negative impacts on wildfires on livelihoods landscapes and global climate stability, especially to build the capacity of countries to address the negative impacts of damaging wildfires.

f. Green Finance for Sustainable Landscape

UNEP presented an overview of ongoing activities under the JI on Green Finance for Sustainable Landscape, highlighting: the Good Food Finance Network to support public and private financial sectors for sustainable food systems; the High Ambition Group to facilitate short-term targets and public commitments in support of transition to sustainable food systems; and knowledge sharing and guidance on impact metrics for investments in sustainable land use and food systems.

Item 4. Interactive discussions

CPF Members and Members of the UNFF held interactive discussions to exchange views and reflect on CPF activities. Several Members of the UNFF expressed satisfaction with the outcome of the recent CPF activities and its ongoing work, encouraged CPF members to continue to seek to maximize synergies and complementarities in their work, and expressed willingness to continue to support the work of the CPF.

Main points highlighted during the discussions included: importance to advocate, communicate, and raise awareness of CPF activities to Member States, including during the Leaders' Summit to be held at UNFCCC COP27; possibility to consider regional approach in relevant CPF activities, particularly to support regional initiatives in the Congo Basin region; possibility to strengthen GFFFN activities through enhanced partnership with CPF members; the importance to measure the poverty alleviation metrics and the livelihood metrics in the context of efforts against deforestation and promoting sustainable landscapes.

Item 5. Summary and next steps

Ms. Tiina Vahanen on behalf of the CPF Chair highlighted the importance to continue to periodically exchange between CPF members and UNFF Member States to receive feedback and discuss new ideas, reflections and suggestions on CPF activities, particularly during the UNFF sessions and other meetings of the governing bodies of CPF members.
