

Voluntary National Report to UNFF

Voluntary National Report on progress towards the implementation of the UN Strategic Plan for Forests 2017–2030, the UN Forest Instrument and Voluntary National Contributions

Thank you for taking the time to complete the voluntary national report to the UN Forum on Forests (UNFF).
Before you start, please take note of the following important information:

1. The Economic and Social Council, in its resolution 2022/17, requested the UNFF secretariat to amend the format for voluntary national reporting to the Forum, taking into account the suggestions and proposals received from members of the Forum, and conduct a pilot phase for the use of the refined format. In the same resolution, the Council invited the Forum to consider establishing an advisory group on reporting. It further requested that the secretariat explore options for establishing an online reporting platform for the Forum, recognizing the need for streamlined reporting and minimizing the reporting burden, including the challenges faced by developing countries.
 2. In fulfilling this mandate, the UNFF Secretariat has amended the format, taking into account the suggestions and proposals received from Members of the Forum and in consultation with the advisory group on reporting. The secretariat has also established an online reporting platform for the submission of voluntary national reports to the Forum.
 3. The amended format is structured around the Global Forest Goals and targets of the UN Strategic Plan for Forests 2017–2030 (UNSPF) and builds on the previous format that was used for reporting to the UNFF15.
 4. The amended format consists of twelve sections, each with several questions:
 1. General information
 2. Progress toward Global Forest Goal 1 and associated targets
 3. Progress toward Global Forest Goal 2 and associated targets
 4. Progress toward Global Forest Goal 3 and associated targets
 5. Progress toward Global Forest Goal 4 and associated targets
 6. Progress toward Global Forest Goal 5 and associated targets
 7. Progress toward Global Forest Goal 6 and associated targets
 8. Self-assessment of progress toward the Global Forest Goals and targets
 9. Voluntary National Contributions
 10. Other questions: Gender equality
 11. Other questions: International Day of Forests
 12. Success stories
- To download a PDF file of the amended voluntary report format, click here [English](#) | [Spanish](#) | [French](#)
5. In view of the cross-cutting nature of issues relating to forests and sustainable forest management, you are kindly invited to consult experts from relevant national ministries, the national focal points for the FAO Global Forest Resources Assessments (FRA), Rio Conventions, other member organizations of the CPF, criteria and indicators processes, and relevant stakeholders, where applicable. Only information that is not currently provided to the member organizations of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests (CPF), or that is not available in other international databases, is requested.
 6. In completing the national report, you may include actions by the Government, as well as the private sector, communities, civil society, or other stakeholders. The year 2020 is used as a baseline, so please include all actions taken since this date. Where applicable, please indicate the source of information, or provide a weblink as reference.
 7. All terms used in this amended format are consistent with terms and definitions used by the FAO Forest Resources Assessment.
 8. Please refer to the Explanatory Notes ([English](#) | [Spanish](#) | [French](#)) for more in-depth guidance when completing the national report. Other helpful resources include:
[Global Forest Goals and targets \(E/RES/2017/4\)](#)
[Sustainable Development Goals and targets \(A/RES/70/1\)](#)
 9. The deadline for submission of the national reports to the UNFF secretariat is 30 June 2025.

Instructions for using the online reporting platform

1. A dedicated link has been provided to the main UNFF national focal point from each country to complete their national report. You may share the link with other national officials, experts from your own country and other relevant departments to collaborate on a single national report. To avoid accidentally deleting or overwriting completed sections of the report, please ensure no two people are working on the same section of the format at the same time. Please do not share the dedicated link with anyone not involved in completing the UNFF national report for your country.
2. The reporting format is available in English, Spanish and French. Please select the language using the menu located in the top right corner of the page.
3. You are given the flexibility to pause and resume completion of the national report. Your responses will be automatically saved, and you may return to the report at any time before the deadline for submission. To return to the report, please click on the link in the original email. If you are working with a weak internet signal, you may want to connect using an Ethernet cable instead of Wi-Fi to ensure a more stable connection.
4. You are invited to use the Section Navigator to move between sections of the survey. Click on the 'Answer' button next to each Section to navigate to the questions in that Section. Once inside the section, use the 'Save and continue' button to proceed within the section and the 'Back' button to return to previous questions.
5. By clicking 'Review and Download' in the Section Navigator, you will be able to download a PDF copy of your responses. After download, you can return to the questions to amend your answers, if necessary.
6. Prior to submission, you will be prompted to upload a cover letter conveying this as the official national report for your country. This step is mandatory. The cover letter shall include an official letterhead with the full name of country, ministry, and/or institution, mail and email address, phone number and the signature of an authorized senior national official. The cover letter size should not exceed 2MB.
7. After submission, you will receive a confirmation email and a PDF copy of the national report.
8. In case of any questions or technical issues, please reach out to Ms. Nadine Souto (nadine.souto@un.org) and Mr. Tomasz Juszcak (juszcakt@un.org) from the UNFF secretariat.

1. General information

1. Country:

This question is required

Botswana

2. UNFF National Focal Point:

(The national focal point will receive a PDF copy of the UNFF national report upon submission)

This question is required

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Title: : Ms.

Address: : Plot 2172, Loapi House, Old Lobatse Road, Gaborone

Organization: : Forestry and Range Resources

Telephone: : +267 3954050

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**3. Contact person for the present national report, if different from the UNFF National Focal Point:
(The contact person will receive a PDF copy of the UNFF national report upon submission)**

Name: : Keletso Seabo
Title: : Mr.
Address: : Plot 1272, Loapi House, Old Lobatse Road, Gaborone
Organization: : Forestry and Range Resources
Telephone: : +267 3954050
Email: : keletsomikeseabo@gmail.com

**4. Institutions involved in the preparation of the national report:
(up to five)**

Institution Name:

Department of Wildlife and National Parks

Email address:

mbatshabang@gov.bw

Address:

Government Enclave Gaborone

Institution Name:

Department of Lands and Housing

Email address:

Address:

Government Enclave Gaborone

Institution Name:

Statistics Botswana

Email address:

Address:

Central Business District Gaborone

Institution Name:

Department of Environment Protection

Email address:

kgmasilo@gov.bw

Address:

Travaglin House, Old Lobatse Road Gaborone

Institution Name:

Rural Development Council

Email address:

sntsabane@gov.bw

Address:

Government Enclave Gaborone

2. Progress toward Global Forest Goal 1 and associated targets

Global Forest Goal 1: Reverse the loss of forest cover worldwide through sustainable forest management, including protection, restoration, afforestation and reforestation, and increase efforts to prevent forest degradation and contribute to the global effort of addressing climate change

Target 1.1: Forest area is increased by 3 per cent worldwide

Target 1.2: The world's forest carbon stocks are maintained or enhanced

Target 1.3: By 2020, promote the implementation of sustainable management of all types of forests, halt deforestation, restore degraded forests and substantially increase afforestation and reforestation globally

Target 1.4: The resilience and adaptive capacity of all types of forests to natural disasters and the impact of climate change is significantly strengthened worldwide

Goal 1 and its targets support and contribute to the achievement of, among other things, targets 6.6, 12.2, 13.1, 13.3, 14.2, 15.1–15.4 and 15.8 of the Sustainable Development Goals and are supported by paragraphs 6 (o) and 7 (d) and (e) of the United Nations forest instrument.

Target 1.1: Forest area is increased by 3 per cent worldwide

5. Since 2020, what actions have been taken in your country to advance or contribute to the achievement of target 1.1? Please provide titles and briefly describe up to three actions per target, and the results to date. You may also indicate additional GFG and SDG targets supported by each action. Where possible, please provide a weblink to refer readers to more information about the action.

To report more than one action for target 1.1, click on "Add another action" below. Please limit your answers to a maximum of 150 words per action.

Action (short title):

Development of National Forest Master Plan

Brief description of the action:

Botswana continues to promote sustainable management of Forest and other vegetated areas through development of strategies and programs on sustainable Forest Management. The National Forest Master Plan has been developed in collaboration with the Government of Japan. The document will provide a strategic guidance to sustainable management of forest and range resources for socio-economic development of the country.

Main results achieved for the action:

The National Forest Master Plan has been developed and is being implemented. The Project achieved the development of Agro-forestry strategy, updating of the 2015 National Forest Distribution Map, data collection through National Forest Inventory, installation of carbon emissions monitoring station in Chobe forest reserve, Construction of ecotourism landmark depicting a story about the importance of ecotourism and its impact in the development of livelihoods of Chobe communities and capacity building of the five basket weaving cooperatives in Chobe Enclave Community Trust area through training and installation of information signboards to promote marketing of their artefacts, Trials of Long rooted seedlings in water scarce areas, establishment of Agro forestry project in Sheikarawe village.

This action also contributes to these GFG targets:

1.2
1.3
1.4
2.1
2.2
2.3
2.4
2.5
3.1
3.2
3.3
4.1
4.2
4.3
4.4
4.5
5.1
5.2
5.3
5.4
6.1
6.2
6.3
6.4
6.5

This action contributes to these SDG targets:

6.6
15.1
15.2
15.b

Weblink:

Action (short title):

Agro-Forestry

Brief description of the action:

Botswana has developed Agro-forestry strategy and Action Plan as one of the strategic documents to promote community beneficiation from forest resources and their participation of communities in tree planting for sustainable forest management in agriculture and other community land.

Main results achieved for the action:

The Agro-Forestry strategy and Action Plan has been developed and is being implemented since 2020. To date, ten (10) projects have been supported across the country to start agroforestry projects

This action also contributes to these GFG targets:

1.2
1.3
1.4
2.1
2.2
2.3
2.4
2.5
3.1
3.2
3.3

This action contributes to these SDG targets:

6.6
15.1
15.2
15.b

Weblink:

Action (short title):

Land Degradation Assessment and Monitoring System

Brief description of the action:

The Land Degradation Assessment and Monitoring System has been developed with assistance from UNCCD. The system will enable generation of timely data on extent of the land degradation, deforestation, desertification in the country and provide guidance for sound decision making on Sustainable Forest Management.

Main results achieved for the action:

The Land Degradation Assessment and Monitoring system which includes Development of the Land Degradation Map, Land Degradation Assessment and setting Land Degradation Neutrality Targets has been developed. Land Restoration Strategy is being finalised. The System has enabled Botswana to establish the degradation baseline, trends and future restoration needs. The system information is also available for research.

This action also contributes to these GFG targets:

1.2
1.3
1.4
2.1
2.2
2.3
2.4
2.5
3.1
3.2
3.3
4.1
4.2
4.3
4.4
4.5
5.1
5.2
5.3
5.4
6.1
6.2
6.3
6.4
6.5

This action contributes to these SDG targets:

6.6
15.1
15.2
15.b

Weblink:

https://bit.ly/botswana_ldn

Target 1.2: The world's forest carbon stocks are maintained or enhanced

6. Since 2020, what actions have been taken in your country to advance or contribute to the achievement of target 1.2? Please provide titles and briefly describe up to three actions per target, and the results to date. You may also indicate additional GFG and SDG targets supported by each action. Where possible, please provide a weblink to refer readers to more information about the action.

To report more than one action for target 1.2, click on "Add another action" below. Please limit your answers to a maximum of 150 words per action.

Action (short title):

Land Degradation Assessment and Monitoring System

Brief description of the action:

Botswana Land Degradation Assessment and Monitoring System has been developed in collaboration with FAO to assess the state of forest carbon stocks in the country. The system has identified land degradation hotspots for future interventions.

Main results achieved for the action:

The amount and change in below and above ground forest carbon stocks has been calculated using the system.

This action also contributes to these GFG targets:

1.1
1.3
1.4

This action also contributes to these SDG targets:

15.1
15.2
15.b

Weblink:

https://lookerstudio.google.com/reporting/73b47da2-037c-4eed-980a-7f19056cb0c9/page/p_999s5zy1jd

Action (short title):

Tree Planting Program

Brief description of the action:

Botswana is committed to meeting the GFG 1 and SDG 15 to address land degradation, deforestation and desertification by promoting afforestation and reforestation program to increase the forest area. The Government continues to provide a good budget to support tree planting initiatives such as National tree planting day, International Day of Forests (IDF) and production of tree seedlings in government tree nurseries.

Main results achieved for the action:

National Tree Planting Day, International Day of Forests and World Desertification and Drought day are commemorated throughout the country annually with tree planting taking place in schools, degraded areas, public spaces and homesteads.

This action also contributes to these GFG targets:

1.1
1.3
1.4
2.1
2.2
2.3
2.4
2.5
3.1
3.2
3.3

This action also contributes to these SDG targets:

6.6
15.1
15.2
15.b

Weblink:

https://bit.ly/botswana_idn

Action (short title):

International Savanna Fire Management Initiative

Brief description of the action:

Botswana has partnered with the University of Darwin in Northern Australia to implement an initiative on combining traditional fire management practices with innovative scientific methodologies and a system of verification. The initiative aims to assess the amount of carbon emissions from wild fires, enhance biodiversity and promote sustainable livelihoods for forest dependent communities.

Main results achieved for the action:

Carbon emissions from different fire regimes are being monitored in Chobe and Ngamiland district. Capacity building on fire management using early burning is ongoing in protected areas of Chobe and Ngamiland districts.

This action also contributes to these GFG targets:

1.1
1.3
1.4

This action also contributes to these SDG targets:

15.1
15.2
15.b

Weblink:

<https://www.isfmi.org/>

Target 1.3: By 2020, promote the implementation of sustainable management of all types of forests, halt deforestation, restore degraded forests and substantially increase afforestation and reforestation globally

7. Since 2020, what actions have been taken in your country to advance or contribute to the achievement of target 1.3? Please provide titles and briefly describe up to three actions per target, and the results to date. You may also indicate additional GFG and SDG targets supported by each action. Where possible, please provide a weblink to refer readers to more information about the action.

To report more than one action for target 1.3, click on "Add another action" below. Please limit your answers to a maximum of 150 words per action.

Action (short title):

Sustainable Land Management projects

Brief description of the action:

Botswana is implementing Drylands Forest Management Child Project (GEF 7 funded) project on Sustainable Land Management of the Miombo-Mophane Landscapes in Tutume-Mosetse and Chobe areas. The Project seeks to promote the integrated management of Miombo and Mopane landscapes in Chobe and Tutume-Mosetse sub-basins through the implementation of Sustainable Land Management (SLM) and Sustainable Forest Management ((SFM) interventions designed to achieve Land Degradation Neutrality (LDN) targets.

Main results achieved for the action:

The project is ongoing. This is an impact programme aimed at offsetting the pressure on land use conflict on drylands forests. The current status is that an Intergrated Land Use plan will be developed in the Chobe and Tutume-Mosetse basin in the northern part of Botswana where the Mopane and Miombo ecosystems are found.

This action also contributes to these GFG targets:

1.1
1.2
1.4
2.1
2.2
2.3
2.4
2.5
3.1
3.2
3.3
4.1
4.2
4.3
4.4
4.5
5.1
5.2
5.3
5.4

This action also contributes to these SDG targets:

6.6
15.1
15.2
15.b

Weblink:

<https://www.thegef.org/projects-operations/projects/10255>

Action (short title):

Land Degradation Assessment and Monitoring System

Brief description of the action:

Botswana has started the Land degradation assessment for 2020-2025 using the FAO Collect Earth Open Foris platform. The data generated will be used to produce the Performance Review and Assessment of Implementation System (PRAIS) 5 report to UNCCD.

Main results achieved for the action:

1. Training of the inter-ministerial National Land Degradation Assessment Team on F.A.O. tools for land degradation assessment.
2. Land Degradation Assessment for PRAIS5 report is ongoing.

This action also contributes to these GFG targets:

1.1
1.2
1.4

This action also contributes to these SDG targets:

6.6
15.1
15.2
15.b

Weblink:

Target 1.4: The resilience and adaptive capacity of all types of forests to natural disasters and the impact of climate change is significantly strengthened worldwide

8. Since 2020, what actions have been taken in your country to advance or contribute to the achievement of target 1.4? Please provide titles and briefly describe up to three actions per target, and the results to date. You may also indicate additional GFG and SDG targets supported by each action. Where possible, please provide a weblink to refer readers to more information about the action.

To report more than one action for target 1.4, click on "Add another action" below. Please limit your answers to a maximum of 150 words per action.

Action (short title):

National Wildland fire Management Strategy

Brief description of the action:

The National Wildland Fire Management is being implemented alongside the District Bushfire Risk Plans. These documents guide the coordination of wildfires in the country and promote multisector approach in wildfire management.

Main results achieved for the action:

- 1.Establishment of Community wildfire teams
- 2.Development of Bushfire risk index

This action also contributes to these GFG targets:

1.1
1.2
1.3
2.1
2.2
2.3
2.4
2.5
3.1
3.2
3.3

This action also contributes to these SDG targets:

6.6
15.1
15.2
15.b

Weblink:

Action (short title):

National Drought Management Plan

Brief description of the action:

In order to manage drought and promote resilience to drought, Botswana has developed a National Drought Management Plan. The plan will mainstream an active and practical integrated drought response focusing on practices that address underlying causes for the vulnerabilities associated with drought impacts resulting in increased resilience systems, adaptation and wellbeing of communities across the country.

Main results achieved for the action:

Drought Management Plan is being implemented through a multi stakeholder and inter ministerial approach. Annual vulnerability assessments conducted across the country in order to streamline resilient and targeted strategies in response to findings and recommendations from the council.

This action also contributes to these GFG targets:

- 1.1
- 1.2
- 1.3
- 2.1
- 2.2
- 2.3
- 2.4
- 2.5

This action also contributes to these SDG targets:

- 6.6
- 15.1
- 15.2
- 15.b

Weblink:

https://www.unccd.int/sites/default/files/country_profile_documents/National%20Drought%20Plan%20-%20BOTSWANA.pdf

Global Forest Goal 1 Challenges

9. What are the main challenges in achieving Goal 1 in your country?

Please limit your answer to 250 words.

1. Insufficient funding for Sustainable Forest Management and Sustainable Land Management
2. Limited research on forestry to advice decision making
3. Outdated laws to promote Sustainable Forest Management
4. Lack of a well coordinated framework to promote Sustainable Forest Management
5. Conflicting National Priorities e.g. Conversion of forest land to Infrastructure development and Agriculture

3. Progress toward Global Forest Goal 2 and associated targets

Global Forest Goal 2: Enhance forest-based economic, social and environmental benefits, including by improving the livelihoods of forest-dependent people

Target 2.1: Extreme poverty for all forest-dependent people is eradicated

Target 2.2: Increase the access of small-scale forest enterprises, in particular in developing countries, to financial services, including affordable credit, and their integration into value chains and markets

Target 2.3: The contribution of forests and trees to food security is significantly increased

Target 2.4: The contribution of forest industry, other forest-based enterprises and forest ecosystem services to social, economic and environmental development, among other things, is significantly increased

Target 2.5: The contribution of all types of forests to biodiversity conservation and climate change mitigation and adaptation is enhanced, taking into account the mandates and ongoing work of relevant conventions and instruments

Goal 2 and its targets support and contribute to the achievement of, among other things, targets 1.1, 1.4, 2.4, 4.4, 5.a, 6.6, 8.3, 9.3, 12.2, 12.5, 15.6 and 15.c of the Sustainable Development Goals, and are supported by paragraphs 6 (d)–(f), (h), (j), (p), (q), (t)–(v) and (y) and 7 (k) of the United Nations forest instrument.

Target 2.1: Extreme poverty for all forest-dependent people is eradicated

10. Since 2020, what actions have been taken in your country to advance or contribute to the achievement of target 2.1? Please provide titles and briefly describe up to three actions per target, and the results to date. You may also indicate additional GFG and SDG targets supported by each action. Where possible, please provide a weblink to refer readers to more information about the action.

To report more than one action for target 2.1, click on "Add another action" below. Please limit your answers to a maximum of 150 words per action.

Action (short title):

Veld products value chain

Brief description of the action:

Botswana is developing a veld products value chain strategy to promote community beneficiation and enhance livelihoods establishment of veld products value chain in the country. The value chain aims to increase benefits derived from forest and rangelands products thereby reducing poverty in forest dependent communities.

Main results achieved for the action:

Through participatory approach involving all relevant stakeholder, veldt products of high economic value have been identified. The development of the veld products value chain strategy is being developed.

This action also contributes to these GFG targets:

2.3
2.4
2.5

This action also contributes to these SDG targets:

15.1
15.2
15.b

Weblink:

Action (short title):

Agro-forestry strategy and Action Plan

Brief description of the action:

The Agro forestry strategy and Action plan has been developed and aims to promote establishment of agroforestry projects to alleviate impacts of poverty in communities particularly those dependent of forest resources.

Main results achieved for the action:

Agro-forestry strategy and Action Plan has been developed. Ten (10) Agroforestry projects are being established in different villages.

This action also contributes to these GFG targets:

2.3
2.4
2.5
2.2

This action also contributes to these SDG targets:

6.6
15.1
15.2
15.b

Weblink:

Target 2.2: Increase the access of small-scale forest enterprises, in particular in developing countries, to financial services, including affordable credit, and their integration into value chains and markets

11. Since 2020, what actions have been taken in your country to advance or contribute to the achievement of target 2.2? Please provide titles and briefly describe up to three actions per target, and the results to date. You may also indicate additional GFG and SDG targets supported by each action. Where possible, please provide a weblink to refer readers to more information about the action.

To report more than one action for target 2.2, click on "Add another action" below. Please limit your answers to a maximum of 150 words per action.

Action (short title):

National Environment Fund

Brief description of the action:

Botswana Government has established The National Environment Fund to support different environment project that promotes sustainable management and utilization of natural resources including forest resources. Different community groups dependent on forest resources, researchers, Non Government Organizations have been funded to start businesses, conduct research, raise awareness on SFM initiatives.

Main results achieved for the action:

Community groups and research institutions have been funded for conservation and livelihoods development projects, conduct research on status of forest and range resources in different parts of the country.

This action also contributes to these GFG targets:

2.3

This action also contributes to these SDG targets:

15.1
15.2
15.b

Weblink:

Action (short title):

Agro forestry Project

Brief description of the action:

Community of Sheikarawe village was assisted through Botswana-Japan partnership project to start up an agro forestry project to promote livelihoods.

Main results achieved for the action:

Agro forestry project has been developed.

This action also contributes to these GFG targets:

2.1

This action also contributes to these SDG targets:

15.1
15.2
15.b

Weblink:

Action (short title):

Forest based Ecotourism

Brief description of the action:

Chobe Enclave Community Trust was facilitated to benefit from Botswana-Japan collaboration project by establishing an ecotourism project for income generation in their area.

Main results achieved for the action:

A tourist attraction Land Mark has been developed in the area.
Educational signboards have been designed and erected in the area.

This action also contributes to these GFG targets:

2.1

This action also contributes to these SDG targets:

6.6
15.1
15.2
15.b

Weblink:

Target 2.3: The contribution of forests and trees to food security is significantly increased

12. Since 2020, what actions have been taken in your country to advance or contribute to the achievement of target 2.3? Please provide titles and briefly describe up to three actions per target, and the results to date. You may also indicate additional GFG and SDG targets supported by each action. Where possible, please provide a weblink to refer readers to more information about the action.

To report more than one action for target 2.3, click on "Add another action" below. Please limit your answers to a maximum of 150 words per action.

Action (short title):

Non Timber Forest products

Brief description of the action:

NTFP contribute to household food security and income generation. These resources include Mophane worm which is a good source of protein and is being exported by local communities to Neighboring countries of South Africa for livestock feed production. Other products include wild fruits, firewood, thatching grass, and vegetables that supplement households nutritional needs.

Main results achieved for the action:

Veldt products permitting system in place to promote sustainable utilization of the resources by communities.

This action also contributes to these GFG targets:

2.1

This action also contributes to these SDG targets:

15.1
15.2
15.b

Weblink:

Target 2.4: The contribution of forest industry, other forest-based enterprises and forest ecosystem services to social, economic and environmental development, among other things, is significantly increased

13. Since 2020, what actions have been taken in your country to advance or contribute to the achievement of target 2.4? Please provide titles and briefly describe up to three actions per target, and the results to date. You may also indicate additional GFG and SDG targets supported by each action. Where possible, please provide a weblink to refer

readers to more information about the action.

To report more than one action for target 2.4, click on "Add another action" below. Please limit your answers to a maximum of 150 words per action.

Action (short title):

Harvesting of Non Timber Forest Products

Brief description of the action:

Government of Botswana continues to issue permits to small scale forest -based enterprises dealing in firewood, mopane worm and thatching grass to harvest products for income generation and livelihoods improvement. Projects on Backyard tree nurseries and Agro forestry are being financially and technically supported by the Department of Forestry & Range Resources.

Main results achieved for the action:

Income generated by local communities

This action also contributes to these GFG targets:

2.1
2.2
2.3

This action also contributes to these SDG targets:

6.6
15.1
15.2
15.b

Weblink:

Target 2.5: The contribution of all types of forests to biodiversity conservation and climate change mitigation and adaptation is enhanced, taking into account the mandates and ongoing work of relevant conventions and instruments

14. Since 2020, what actions have been taken in your country to advance or contribute to the achievement of target 2.5? Please provide titles and briefly describe up to three actions per target, and the results to date. You may also indicate additional GFG and SDG targets supported by each action. Where possible, please provide a weblink to refer readers to more information about the action.

To report more than one action for target 2.5, click on "Add another action" below. Please limit your answers to a maximum of 150 words per action.

Action (short title):

Development of Forest Master Plan

Brief description of the action:

Botswana in collaboration with Government of Japan has developed a National Forest Master Plan to provide strategic guidance to the sustainable development of the forestry sector in Botswana. The Master Plan outlines key strategic actions and has taken into consideration other strategic documents for biodiversity conservation and climate change mitigation and adaptation. These documents include the NBSAP, Climate Change Policy and Action Plan, National Adaptation Plan.

Main results achieved for the action:

The National Forest Distribution Map has been updated and gives the total area for the different ecosystems in the country.

This action also contributes to these GFG targets:

2.1
2.2
2.3
2.4
1.1
1.2
1.3
1.4
3.1
3.2
3.3

This action also contributes to these SDG targets:

6.6
15.1
15.2
15.b

Weblink:**Action (short title):**

Management Plans for Forest Reserves

Brief description of the action:

Botswana continues to promote biodiversity conservation and promote resilience to impacts of climate change by setting aside forest reserves. The management plans for the forest reserves have been developed with assistance from Government of Japan. these management plans will help in the sustainable management of the forest reserve for optimization of socio-economic benefits and promotion of conservation.

Main results achieved for the action:

Management plans developed for Chobe, Kasane and Kazuma forest reserves

This action also contributes to these GFG targets:

2.1
2.2
2.3
2.4

This action also contributes to these SDG targets:

6.6
15.1
15.2
15.b

Weblink:

Action (short title):

Carbon Emissions Assessment in Kazuma forest reserve

Brief description of the action:

The Department of Forestry & Range Resources has partnered with Botswana International University of Science and Technology (BIUST) to install a carbon flux monitoring equipment in Kazuma Forest reserve.

The equipment will generate data on carbon emissions in the area. The data will be used for GHG emissions and UNFCCC reporting.

Main results achieved for the action:

Data generation ongoing

This action also contributes to these GFG targets:

- 1.1
- 1.2
- 1.3
- 1.4
- 2.1
- 2.2
- 2.3
- 2.4
- 3.1
- 3.2

This action also contributes to these SDG targets:

- 15.1
- 15.2
- 15.b

Weblink:

Global Forest Goal 2 Challenges

15. What are the main challenges in achieving Goal 2 in your country?

Please limit your answer to 250 words.

1. Limited data on benefits accrued from forest related enterprises
2. Low participation of private financial institutions in forest based enterprises financing.
3. Forest based enterprises are predominantly informal which makes data collection on offtake and in-come generation unreliable.

4. Progress toward Global Forest Goal 3 and associated targets

Global Forest Goal 3: Increase significantly the area of protected forests worldwide and other areas of sustainably managed forests, as well as the proportion of forest products from sustainably managed forests

Target 3.1: The area of forests worldwide designated as protected areas or conserved through other effective area-based conservation measures is significantly increased

Target 3.2: The area of forests under long-term forest management plans is significantly increased

Target 3.3: The proportion of forest products from sustainably managed forests is significantly increased

Goal 3 and its targets support and contribute to the achievement of, among other things, targets 7.2, 12.2, 12.6, 12.7, 14.2, 14.5, 15.2 and 15.4 of the Sustainable Development Goals, and are supported by paragraphs 6 (p), (q) and (x) and 7 (f) and (g) of the United Nations forest instrument.

Target 3.1: The area of forests worldwide designated as protected areas or conserved through other effective area-based conservation measures is significantly increased

16. Since 2020, what actions have been taken in your country to advance or contribute to the achievement of target 3.1? Please provide titles and briefly describe up to three actions per target, and the results to date. You may also indicate additional GFG and SDG targets supported by each action. Where possible, please provide a weblink to refer readers to more information about the action.

To report more than one action for target 3.1, click on "Add another action" below. Please limit your answers to a maximum of 150 words per action.

Action (short title):

Protected Forest Areas

Brief description of the action:

The area of protected forests has not been increased thus there is no difference from the National report of 2019.

Main results achieved for the action:

The 437264 ha of forest reserves has been maintained for conservation.

This action also contributes to these GFG targets:

1.1
1.2
1.3
1.4
2.1
2.2
2.3
2.4
2.5
3.2
3.3

This action also contributes to these SDG targets:

15.1
15.2
15.b

Weblink:

Target 3.2: The area of forests under long-term forest management plans is significantly increased

17. Since 2020, what actions have been taken in your country to advance or contribute to the achievement of target 3.2? Please provide titles and briefly describe up to three actions per target, and the results to date. You may also indicate additional GFG and SDG targets supported by each action. Where possible, please provide a weblink to refer readers to more information about the action.

To report more than one action for target 3.2, click on "Add another action" below. Please limit your answers to a maximum of 150 words per action.

Action (short title):

Forest Management Plans

Brief description of the action:

In preparation for the anticipated opening of forest reserves for ecotourism once the new forest and range resources act has been enacted by parliament, management plans for Chobe, Kasane and Kazuma forests reserves have been developed to prepare for their opening up for ecotourism activities.

Main results achieved for the action:

Management plans have been developed for Chobe, Kasane and Kazuma forest reserves.

This action also contributes to these GFG targets:

1.1
1.2
1.3
1.4
2.1
2.2
2.3
2.4
2.5
3.1
3.3

This action also contributes to these SDG targets:

6.6
15.1
15.2
15.b

Weblink:

Target 3.3: The proportion of forest products from sustainably managed forests is significantly increased

18. Since 2020, what actions have been taken in your country to advance or contribute to the achievement of target 3.3? Please provide titles and briefly describe up to three actions per target, and the results to date. You may also

indicate additional GFG and SDG targets supported by each action. Where possible, please provide a weblink to refer readers to more information about the action.

To report more than one action for target 3.3, click on "Add another action" below. Please limit your answers to a maximum of 150 words per action.

Action (short title):

Forest Products from sustainably managed forests

Brief description of the action:

Botswana forest reserves are strictly protected with no human activity allowed. Therefore, there is no difference from 2019 National Report.

Main results achieved for the action:

Not applicable

This action also contributes to these GFG targets:

2.1
2.2
2.3
2.4
2.5
3.1
3.2

This action also contributes to these SDG targets:

15.1
15.2
15.b

Weblink:

Global Forest Goal 3 Challenges

**19. What are the main challenges in achieving Goal 3 in your country?
Please limit your answer to 250 words.**

1. High pressure from other land uses to degazette forest reserves for residential, agriculture and ecotourism use.
2. Annual fire occurrences destroying the vegetation cover
3. Increase in demand for fuel wood for commercial purposes
4. High population of wild animals in forest reserves destroying forest cover

5. Progress toward Global Forest Goal 4 and associated targets

Global Forest Goal 4: Mobilize significantly increased, new and additional financial resources from all sources for the implementation of sustainable forest management and strengthen scientific and technical cooperation and partnerships

Target 4.1: Mobilize significant resources from all sources and at all levels to finance sustainable forest management and provide adequate incentives to developing countries to advance such management, including for conservation and reforestation

Target 4.2: Forest-related financing from all sources at all levels, including public (national, bilateral, multilateral and triangular), private and philanthropic financing, is significantly increased

Target 4.3: North-South, South-South, North-North and triangular cooperation and public-private partnerships on science, technology and innovation in the forest sector are significantly enhanced and increased

Target 4.4: The number of countries that have developed and implemented forest financing strategies and have access to financing from all sources is significantly increased

Target 4.5: The collection, availability and accessibility of forest-related information is improved through, for example, multidisciplinary scientific assessments

Goal 4 and its targets support and contribute to the achievement of, among other things, targets 12.a, 15.7, 15.a, 15.b, 17.1–17.3, 17.6, 17.7 and 17.16–17.19 of the Sustainable Development Goals, and are supported by paragraphs 6 (h), (i), (m), (r) and (s) and 7 (a)–(c) and (l)–(q) of the United Nations forest instrument.

Target 4.1: Mobilize significant resources from all sources and at all levels to finance sustainable forest management and provide adequate incentives to developing countries to advance such management, including for conservation and reforestation

20. Since 2020, what actions have been taken in your country to advance or contribute to the achievement of target 4.1? Please provide titles and briefly describe up to three actions per target, and the results to date. You may also indicate additional GFG and SDG targets supported by each action. Where possible, please provide a weblink to refer readers to more information about the action.

To report more than one action for target 4.1, click on "Add another action" below. Please limit your answers to a maximum of 150 words per action.

Action (short title):

GEF 7 Allocation

Brief description of the action:

Botswana has benefitted from GEF 7 allocation for the Impact program on Sustainable land management of Miombo-Mophane ecosystem to promote Land Degradation Neutrality, promote sustainable forest management and enhance rural livelihoods.

Main results achieved for the action:

Capacity building and employment creation for forest and range resources dependent communities.

This action also contributes to these GFG targets:

1.1
1.2
1.3
1.4
2.1
2.2
2.3
2.4
2.5

This action also contributes to these SDG targets:

6.6
15.1
15.2
15.b

Weblink:

Action (short title):

Brief description of the action:

Main results achieved for the action:

This action also contributes to these GFG targets:

This action also contributes to these SDG targets:

Weblink:

Target 4.1: Mobilize significant resources from all sources and at all levels to finance sustainable forest management and provide adequate incentives to developing countries to advance such management, including for conservation and reforestation

21. Since 2020, has your country been able to mobilize significantly increased financial resources for the implementation of sustainable forest management?

Yes

**22. If yes, please specify the sources:
(Select all that apply)**

Public domestic funding
Public international funding, including official development assistance

23. If no, please describe the main challenges encountered:

Target 4.2: Forest-related financing from all sources at all levels, including public (national, bilateral, multilateral and triangular), private and philanthropic financing, is significantly increased

24. Since 2020, what actions have been taken in your country to advance or contribute to the achievement of target 4.2? Please provide titles and briefly describe up to three actions per target, and the results to date. You may also indicate additional GFG and SDG targets supported by each action. Where possible, please provide a weblink to refer readers to more information about the action.

To report more than one action for target 4.2, click on "Add another action" below. Please limit your answers to a maximum of 150 words per action.

Action (short title):

Bilateral Funding

Brief description of the action:

Botswana benefitted financial support from Governments of Japan and Australia, Global Environment Facility 7 allocation for capacity building on Sustainable Forest Management, the development of a National Forest Master Plan and Fire management respectively.

Main results achieved for the action:

1. National Forest Master Plan developed
2. Forest Inventory data collection completed
3. Agro-forestry strategy developed
4. Management Plans for Chobe, Kasane and Kazuma Forest reserves developed.
5. Installation of carbon flux monitoring equipment in Chobe Forest Reserve.
4. Capacity building in-terms of procurement of 2 Toyota Land cruiser vehicles, forest inventory equipment, training of staff and community members on sustainable forest management, fire management, agroforestry and exchange program for staff and community representatives in Japan.
4. Trials of Long Rooted Tree Seedlings for water scarce areas
5. Construction of an ecotourism landmark for Chobe Enclave Conservation Trust
6. Establishment of Agroforestry project for Sheikarawe Community Development Trust

This action also contributes to these GFG targets:

- 1.1
- 1.2
- 1.3
- 1.4
- 2.1
- 2.2
- 2.3
- 2.4
- 2.5
- 3.1
- 3.2
- 3.3

This action also contributes to these SDG targets:

6.6
15.1
15.2
15.b

Weblink:

Action (short title):

Brief description of the action:

Main results achieved for the action:

This action also contributes to these GFG targets:

This action also contributes to these SDG targets:

Weblink:

Target 4.3: North-South, South-South, North-North and triangular cooperation and public-private partnerships on science, technology and innovation in the forest sector are significantly enhanced and increased

25. Since 2020, what actions have been taken in your country to advance or contribute to the achievement of target 4.3? Please provide titles and briefly describe up to three actions per target, and the results to date. You may also indicate additional GFG and SDG targets supported by each action. Where possible, please provide a weblink to refer readers to more information about the action.

To report more than one action for target 4.3, click on "Add another action" below. Please limit your answers to a maximum of 150 words per action.

Action (short title):

South-South Cooperation

Brief description of the action:

Botswana is participating in the Regional Centre of Excellence (RCoE) for Biodiversity, Forests, and Seascape Ecosystems Management in Eastern and Southern Africa.

Main results achieved for the action:

Participated in training on the following: 1) Biodiversity and Protected Areas Management, 2) Integrated Management Effectiveness Tool for Protected Areas

This action also contributes to these GFG targets:

- 1.1
- 1.2
- 1.3
- 1.4
- 2.1
- 2.2
- 2.3
- 2.4
- 2.5
- 3.1
- 3.2
- 3.3

This action also contributes to these SDG targets:

- 15.1
- 15.2
- 15.b

Weblink:

<https://rcmrd.org/en/projects/rcoe>

Action (short title):

KAVANGO ZAMBEZI TRANSFRONTIER CONSERVATION AREA

Brief description of the action:

Botswana is a member of the Kavango Zambezi Trans frontier Conservation Area. The project is a joint initiative of five countries (Botswana, Zimbabwe, Zambia, Angola and Namibia) that share the Kavango and Zambezi river basin extending into the Miombo forests landscapes to promote sustainable management of the resources.

Main results achieved for the action:

- 1. Formulation of KAZA component development plans and strategies
- 2. Formulation of a regional development plan
- 3. Development of Standard Operating Procedures for processing of CITES permits at border posts

This action also contributes to these GFG targets:

- 1.1
- 1.2
- 1.3
- 1.4
- 2.1
- 2.2
- 2.3
- 2.4
- 2.5
- 3.1
- 3.2
- 3.3

This action also contributes to these SDG targets:

- 6.6
- 15.1
- 15.2
- 15.b

Weblink:

<https://www.kavangozambezi.org/milestones/>

Action (short title):

North-South cooperation

Brief description of the action:

Botswana-Japan partnership in the Promotion of Sustainable Forest Management through development of a National Forest Master Plan for Botswana to enhance the capacity of the Department of Forestry and Range Resources to better manage the forest and range resources in the country.

Main results achieved for the action:

The National Forest Master Plan has been developed with key outputs on updating of the National Forest Distribution Map, conducting National Forest Inventory, Establishment of ecotourism landmark in Chobe Enclave Community Trust, Establishment of agro-forestry project for Sheikarawe Community trust, establishment of a carbon flux monitoring station in Chobe forest reserve and trials of long root seedlings in water scarce areas.

This action also contributes to these GFG targets:

1.1
1.2
1.3
1.4
2.1
2.2
2.3
2.4
2.5
3.1
3.2
3.3
4.1
4.2
4.4
4.5

This action also contributes to these SDG targets:

6.6
15.1
15.2
15.b

Weblink:

Target 4.3: North-South, South-South, North-North and triangular cooperation and public-private partnerships on science, technology and innovation in the forest sector are significantly enhanced and increased

26. Is your country engaged in international cooperation and/or public-private partnerships to promote sustainable forest management?

Yes

**27. If yes, please specify the entity or entities with which your country is cooperating:
(Select all that apply)**

Non-governmental organizations
Intergovernmental organizations and/or processes
Governments

**28. Please specify the types of cooperation and/or public-private partnerships in which your country is engaged:
(Select all that apply)**

South-South
North-South

**29. Please specify the areas of cooperation and/or public-private partnerships in which your country is engaged:
(Select all that apply)**

Science
Technology
Innovation

Target 4.4: The number of countries that have developed and implemented forest financing strategies and have access to financing from all sources is significantly increased

30. Since 2020, has your Government developed or implemented financing strategies to achieve sustainable forest management and to implement the United Nations forest instrument?

No

31. Since 2020, has your country had access to financing to achieve sustainable forest management and to implement the United Nations forest instrument?

Yes

**32. If yes, please specify the sources:
(Select all that apply)**

Public international funding, including official development assistance
Public domestic funding

Target 4.5: The collection, availability and accessibility of forest-related information is improved through, for example, multidisciplinary scientific assessments

33. Has the collection, availability and accessibility of forest-related information in your country, for example, through multidisciplinary scientific assessments, improved since 2020?

Yes

34. If yes, please describe any improvements (maximum 250 words).

Botswana has managed to generate real time data on land degradation for PRAIS 4 reporting using the Land Degradation Monitoring System with assistance from UNCCD and FAO.
The country has also developed a Fire Danger Index for wildfire monitoring and Updating of the Forest Distribution Map for year 2020 with assistance from Japan International Cooperation Agency

35. Does your country carry out a National Forest Inventory?

Yes

36. If yes, what year was the most recent inventory completed?

2023

Global Forest Goal 4 Challenges

37. What are the main challenges in achieving Goal 4 in your country?

Please limit your answer to 250 words.

- Lack of forest financing strategy
- Lack of forest financing by local private companies
- Limited accredited entities to access donor funding

6. Progress toward Global Forest Goal 5 and associated targets

Global Forest Goal 5: Promote governance frameworks to implement sustainable forest management, including through the United Nations forest instrument, and enhance the contribution of forests to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

Target 5.1: Number of countries that have integrated forests into their national sustainable development plans and/or poverty reduction strategies is significantly increased

Target 5.2: Forest law enforcement and governance are enhanced, including through significantly strengthening national and subnational forest authorities, and illegal logging and associated trade are significantly reduced worldwide

Target 5.3: National and subnational forest-related policies and programmes are coherent, coordinated and complementary across ministries, departments and authorities, consistent with national laws, and engage relevant stakeholders, local communities and indigenous peoples, fully recognizing the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples

Target 5.4: Forest-related issues and the forest sector are fully integrated into decision-making processes concerning land use planning and development

Goal 5 and its targets support and contribute to the achievement, among other things, of targets 1.4, 2.4, 5.a, 15.9, 15.c, 16.3, 16.5–16.7, 16.10 and 17.14 of the Sustainable Development Goals, and are supported by paragraphs 6 (a), (c), (k), (l), (n) and (w) and 7 (c) and (h)–(j) of the United Nations forest instrument.

Target 5.1: Number of countries that have integrated forests into their national sustainable development plans and/or poverty reduction strategies is significantly increased

38. In your country, have forests been integrated into national sustainable development plans and/or poverty reduction strategies?

Yes

**39. If yes, please specify which:
(Select both, if applicable)**

National sustainable development plans
Poverty reduction strategies

Target 5.2: Forest law enforcement and governance are enhanced, including through significantly strengthening national and subnational forest authorities, and illegal logging and associated trade are significantly reduced worldwide

40. Since 2020, what actions have been taken in your country to advance or contribute to the achievement of target 5.2? Please provide titles and briefly describe up to three actions per target, and the results to date. You may also indicate additional GFG and SDG targets supported by each action. Where possible, please provide a weblink to refer readers to more information about the action.

To report more than one action for target 5.2, click on "Add another action" below. Please limit your answers to a maximum of 150 words per action.

Action (short title):

Development of Forest and Range Resources Act

Brief description of the action:

The process of developing the new law that consolidates the three (3) pieces of legislation on forest and range resources is ongoing with no major change from the previous report except that the Bill has been passed by Cabinet and awaits discussion in Parliament of July 2025.

Main results achieved for the action:

No major achievements from previous report.

This action also contributes to these GFG targets:

1.1
1.2
1.3
1.4
2.1
2.2
2.3
2.4
2.5
3.1
3.2
3.3
4.1
4.2
4.3
4.4
4.5
5.1
5.3
5.4
6.1
6.2
6.3
6.4
6.5

This action also contributes to these SDG targets:

6.6
15.1
15.2
15.b

Weblink:

Target 5.2: Forest law enforcement and governance are enhanced, including through significantly strengthening national and subnational forest authorities, and illegal logging and associated trade are significantly reduced worldwide

41. Since 2020, has your government taken steps to prevent and reduce illegal international trafficking in forest products, wildlife and other biological resources?

Yes

42. If yes, please specify the type of action:

Export controls
Import controls

Target 5.3: National and subnational forest-related policies and programmes are coherent, coordinated and complementary across ministries, departments and authorities, consistent with national laws, and engage relevant stakeholders, local communities and indigenous peoples, fully recognizing the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples

43. Since 2020, what actions have been taken in your country to advance or contribute to the achievement of target 5.3? Please provide titles and briefly describe up to three actions per target, and the results to date. You may also indicate additional GFG and SDG targets supported by each action. Where possible, please provide a weblink to refer readers to more information about the action.

To report more than one action for target 5.3, click on "Add another action" below. Please limit your answers to a maximum of 150 words per action.

Action (short title):

Development of National Forest Master Plan

Brief description of the action:

The Department continues to embrace principle of inclusive and participatory management of forest and range resources through involvement of relevant stakeholder being government departments, communities, private companies and non governmental organizations in all decision making.

The National Forest Master Plan was developed through an inclusive and participatory approach by conducting stakeholder consultation meetings in villages and other major public areas.

Press releases and interviews were conducted for wider publicity and out reach.

Main results achieved for the action:

The National Forest Master Plan has been developed and validated by stakeholders.

This action also contributes to these GFG targets:

1.1
1.2
1.3
1.4
2.1
2.2
2.3
2.4
2.5
3.1
3.2
3.3
4.1
4.2
4.3
4.4
4.5
5.1
5.2
5.4
6.1
6.2
6.3
6.4
6.5

This action also contributes to these SDG targets:

6.6
15.1
15.2
15.b

Weblink:

Target 5.3: National and subnational forest-related policies and programmes are coherent, coordinated and complementary across ministries, departments and authorities, consistent with national laws, and engage relevant stakeholders, local communities and indigenous peoples, fully recognizing the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples

44. Please describe what types of mechanisms are in place to involve stakeholders in the formulation, planning and/or implementation of forest-related policies and programmes (maximum 250 words).

Botswana continue to uphold principles of participatory stakeholder consultations through kgotla (village chief meeting area) meetings, workshops, Media Press statements, radio and television interviews, social media platforms such as facebook.

Target 5.4: Forest-related issues and the forest sector are fully integrated into decision-making processes concerning land use planning and development

45. In your country, have forests been integrated into decision-making processes concerning land use planning and development?

Yes

Global Forest Goal 5 Challenges

**46. What are the main challenges in achieving Goal 5 in your country?
Please limit your answer to 250 words.**

The main challenge in achieving Goal 5 is the slow process of development of laws and policies in the country which significantly affect sustainable management of forests and livelihoods development. This is coupled with forest resources being not prioritized over other land uses in decision making which results with them being not developed to desired level.

7. Progress toward Global Forest Goal 6 and associated targets

Global Forest Goal 6: Enhance cooperation, coordination, coherence and synergies on forest-related issues at all levels, including within the United Nations system and across member organizations of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests, as well as across sectors and relevant stakeholders

Note: targets 6.1 and 6.2 are not included in this section of the reporting format as they address actions taken by the international community, and not those taken at the national level

Target 6.3: Cross-sectoral coordination and cooperation to promote sustainable forest management and halt deforestation and forest degradation are significantly enhanced at all levels

Target 6.4: A greater common understanding of the concept of sustainable forest management is achieved and an associated set of indicators is identified

Target 6.5: The input and involvement of major groups and other relevant stakeholders in the implementation of the strategic plan and in the work of the Forum, including intersessional work, is strengthened

Goal 6 and its targets support and contribute to the achievement of, among other things, target 17.14 of the Sustainable Development Goals and are supported by paragraphs 6 (b), (c), (g), (m) and (w) and 7 (r) and (s) of the United Nations forest instrument.

Target 6.3: Cross-sectoral coordination and cooperation to promote sustainable forest management and halt deforestation and forest degradation are significantly enhanced at all levels

47. Since 2020, what actions have been taken in your country to advance or contribute to the achievement of target 6.3? Please provide titles and briefly describe up to three actions per target, and the results to date. You may also indicate additional GFG and SDG targets supported by each action. Where possible, please provide a weblink to refer readers to more information about the action.

To report more than one action for target 6.3, click on "Add another action" below. Please limit your answers to a maximum of 150 words per action.

Action (short title):

Land Use Committees and Thematic Working Groups

Brief description of the action:

Botswana has an established cross sectoral approach that bring together all ministries dealing with land use for better planning and management of land resources including forests and rangelands. There is a cross sectoral committee on Land Degradation Monitoring, District Land Use Planning Units.

Cross sectoral thematic working groups for different SDGs have bene formed to monitor and report on progress of SDGs including SDGs 6,12, 13 and 15 which cover forests and rangelands.

Communities are engaged through community programs and committees on sustainable management of forest and range resources. These include; 1) Community fire management teams, 2) Agricultural Resources Board specifically for awareness raising and law enforcement on sustainable management of forest and range resources.

Main results achieved for the action:

Development of Integrated land use plans to promote sustainable management of different landscapes including forests and rangelands.

This action also contributes to these GFG targets:

1.1
1.2
1.3
1.4
2.1
2.2
2.3
2.4
2.5
3.1
3.2
3.3
6.1
6.2
6.4

This action also contributes to these SDG targets:

6.6
15.1
15.2
15.b

Weblink:

Target 6.3: Cross-sectoral coordination and cooperation to promote sustainable forest management and halt deforestation and forest degradation are significantly enhanced at all levels

48. Are mechanisms in place for cross-sectoral coordination and cooperation to promote sustainable forest management and halt deforestation and forest degradation?

Yes

49. If yes, please specify the sectors involved:

Climate change
Biodiversity
Energy
Rural development
Land use

Target 6.4: A greater common understanding of the concept of sustainable forest management is achieved and an associated set of indicators is identified

50. Since 2020, what actions have been taken in your country to advance or contribute to the achievement of target 6.4? Please provide titles and briefly describe up to three actions per target, and the results to date. You may also indicate additional GFG and SDG targets supported by each action. Where possible, please provide a weblink to refer readers to more information about the action.

To report more than one action for target 6.4, click on "Add another action" below. Please limit your answers to a maximum of 150 words per action.

Action (short title):

Communication and Stakeholder Engagement Plan

Brief description of the action:

The Department has developed a communication and stakeholder engagement plan to promote engagement of stakeholders on sustainable forest management through meetings, radio and television interviews, press release, pamphlets and trade fairs . Also the community outreach program is being promoted through commemoration of Tree Planting, International day of Forests and Drought and Desertification Day.

Main results achieved for the action:

- 1.Inclusion of Sustainable Forest Management in School Curriculum.
- 2.Establishment of community conservation trusts, conservation committees and Environmental clubs across the country

This action also contributes to these GFG targets:

- 6.1
- 6.2

This action also contributes to these SDG targets:

6.6
15.1
15.2
15.b

Weblink:

Target 6.4: A greater common understanding of the concept of sustainable forest management is achieved and an associated set of indicators is identified

51. Are criteria and indicators for sustainable forest management used in your country?

Yes

52. If yes, please specify which sets of criteria and indicators are used:
(Select all that apply)

National or subnational

53. If yes, please specify for which of the following purposes the criteria and indicators are used:
(Select all that apply)

To generate information for national reports on forest conditions and management
To monitor and assess forest conditions and management
To review and develop national forest policies and tools for sustainable forest management
To communicate with society and carry out dialogue with stakeholders
To report on forests to regional and international organizations (please specify):: FRA, UNFF, UNCCD, UNFCCC, SADC

Target 6.5: The input and involvement of major groups and other relevant stakeholders in the implementation of the strategic plan and in the work of the Forum, including intersessional work, is strengthened

54. Since 2020, what actions have been taken in your country to advance or contribute to the achievement of target 6.5? Please provide titles and briefly describe up to three actions per target, and the results to date. You may also indicate additional GFG and SDG targets supported by each action. Where possible, please provide a weblink to refer readers to more information about the action.

To report more than one action for target 6.5, click on "Add another action" below. Please limit your answers to a maximum of 150 words per action.

Action (short title):

Stakeholder Involvement on SFM

Brief description of the action:

Government supports community projects on forest and range resources for income generation and livelihoods development. These include Backyard tree nurseries, commercial harvesting of non timber forest products (Mopane worm, thatching grass, firewood, fencing poles, devil's claw), Agro forestry projects and firebreak construction and maintenance. Majority of those who participate in this are women and youth.

The Scientific and Academia are engaged in the provision of technical training and capacity building on matters of policy, legislative and multi-stakeholder consultation process, provision of short and long term consultancies on a range of issues among them: Development of National Forest Master Plan, Development of Forest Reserves Management Plans, Training on fire management, Development of Agro forestry strategy.

Main results achieved for the action:

1. Development of National Forest Master Plan, Development of Forest Reserves Management Plans, Training on fire management, Development of Agro forestry strategy.
2. Establishment of Agro forestry project in Sheikarawe village
3. Establishment of ecotourism land mark for Chobe Enclave Conservation trust

This action also contributes to these GFG targets:**This action also contributes to these SDG targets:**

6.6
15.1
15.2
15.b

Weblink:

Target 6.5: The input and involvement of major groups and other relevant stakeholders in the implementation of the strategic plan and in the work of the Forum, including intersessional work, is strengthened

55. Since 2020, have major groups and other relevant stakeholders been involved in the implementation of the United Nations strategic plan for forests 2017–2030?

Yes

56. If yes, please describe their involvement in a maximum of 250 words:

Major community groups have been involved in the implementation of the project for the Development of a National Forest Master Plan through community empowerment activity which established an agro forestry project and ecotourism landmark for communities of Sheikarawe and Chobe West villages. Community members of the two areas have been trained on fire management, agro forestry, sustainable forest management.

Two members of community participated in a benchmarking trip on Sustainable Forest Management in Japan.

Members of the Cross Sectoral Land Degradation technical Group have been trained on UNCCD land degradation assessment and reporting tool. The training was conducted in collaboration with FAO.

Global Forest Goal 6 Challenges

**57. What are the main challenges in achieving Goal 6 in your country?
Please limit your answer to 250 words.**

1. Insufficient funding for engagement of stakeholders
2. Poor participation of private sector and public in sustainable Forest Management
3. Low political support on sustainable forest management

8. Self-assessment of progress toward the Global Forest Goals and targets

58. In your opinion, what is the progress of your country towards the targets of the UN Strategic Plan for Forests, since its adoption in 2017?

	Achieved	On track	Some progress	No change	Negative change	Not applicable
1.1 Forest area		X				
1.2 Carbon stock		X				
1.3 Implementation of SFM		X				
1.4 Resilience and adaptation		X				
2.1 Extreme poverty of forest dependent people			X			
2.2 Access to finance of small forest enterprises		X				
2.3 Food security		X				
2.4 Contribution to social economic and environmental development			X			
2.5 Contribution to biodiversity conservation and climate change mitigation		X				
3.1 Protected areas		X				
3.2 Long-term forest management plans		X				
3.3 Products from sustainably managed forests		X				
4.1 Mobilization of resources for SFM	X					
4.2 Increased forest related financing		X				
4.3 Enhanced cooperation and partnerships		X				
4.4 Forest financing strategies and access to financing			X			
4.5 Forest-related information		X				
5.1 Integration of forests in national plans and strategies	X					
5.2 Enhancement of forest law enforcement and governance				X		
5.3 Coherence and coordination of policies and programmes			X			
5.4 Integration of forest related issues into land-use planning		X				
6.3 Cross-sectoral coordination and cooperation		X				
6.4 Common understanding of concept of SFM indicator sets		X				
6.5 Strengthened involvement of stakeholders			X			

9. Voluntary National Contributions

59. Has your government announced any Voluntary National Contributions (VNCs) related to the Global Forest Goals?

Yes

60. If yes, please provide a brief description, including information on timeframes and the progress made thus far. If your government has announced more than one Voluntary National Contribution, please click "Add another contribution" (can add up to ten).

Brief description:

By 2030, Botswana will reduce Forest degradation by 10% in-order to achieve the Land Degradation Neutrality target. The country will achieve this by planting 2 million trees in homesteads, road reserves, open spaces, establishment of community woodlots, reducing area burned by wildfire by 20% from 2014/15 average area burned and reducing spread of Prosopis invasive species by 10 %.Carbon stocks will be improved by 1% across all land types by preventing land use and land cover change.The 409 540 ha of protected areas will be maintained during opening up of forest reserves for eco-tourism activities.

Progress to date:

The Government of Botswana promotes tree planting in degraded areas for restoration, around homes and in institutions through the commemoration of tree planting days, International Day of Forests and Desertification and Drought day annually.

The establishment of mokolwane(*Hyphaene petersiana*) plantation in Shorobe has started with fencing and drilling of borehole done through Government National Environmental Fund. Communities are engaged to remove prosopis with value addition of charcoal production in the Tsabong district. Academic institutions such as the University of Botswana are also engaged in the mapping of prosopis.

The Government of Botswana is undertaking Holistic Range Management initiatives across the country to promote good rangeland through grazing management, reseeding of rangelands with palatable perennial grasses and management bush encroachment.

Various stakeholder engagement initiatives are undertaken to increase community fire preparedness and reduce response time to fire incidences. Early season prescribed burning interventions in some areas have helped to reduce area burnt, and such efforts will be intensified in other fire prone areas

This action contributes to these GFG targets:

1.1
1.2
1.3
1.4
2.1
2.2
2.3
2.4
2.5
3.1
3.2
3.3

This action contributes to these SDG targets:

6.6
15.1
15.2
15.b

Brief description:

Sustainable and optimal use of natural resources will have transformed our economy and uplifted our people's livelihoods by 2030. Botswana will achieve this through establishing and operationalizing veldt products multiplication and commercialization of *Sclerocarya birrea* (Morula), *Schinziophyton rautenii* (mongongongo), *Ambrosia belina* (phane), thatching grass, *Harphagophytum procumbens* (devils claw), *Hyphaene petersiana* (Mokolwane).

Agro forestry projects will be established to increase household in-come, food production, fodder for livestock, agro tourism and medicinal indigenous plants. Ecotourism businesses will be promoted in three forest reserves of Chobe, Kasane and Kazuma.

Progress to date:

The Agroforestry strategy has been completed and agroforestry demonstration sites are being established country wide. Stakeholder engagement for funding and land availability for agro forestry projects is on-going.

The review of the current legal frameworks to allow for ecotourism to be undertaken in forest reserves is at advanced stage with the management plans for the Chobe, Kasane and Kazuma forest reserves developed.

This action contributes to these GFG targets:

- 1.1
- 1.2
- 1.3
- 1.4
- 2.1
- 2.2
- 2.3
- 2.4
- 2.5
- 3.1
- 3.2
- 3.3

This action contributes to these SDG targets:

- 6.6
- 15.1
- 15.2
- 15.b

Brief description:

Botswana will effectively facilitate participation of local communities, individuals and private sector in the sustainable management of forest resources by strengthening governance of forests through stakeholder participation and harmonization of the three legal instruments that govern forest and range resources to permit use of forest reserves for ecotourism and other sustainable uses.

Progress to date:

The review of the current legal frameworks to allow for ecotourism to be undertaken in forest reserves is at advanced stage with the management plans for the Chobe, Kasane and Kazuma forest reserves developed.

This action contributes to these GFG targets:

1.1
1.2
1.3
1.4
2.1
2.2
2.3
2.4
2.5
3.1
3.2
3.3
4.1
4.2
4.3
4.4
4.5

This action contributes to these SDG targets:

6.6
15.1
15.2
15.b

10. Other questions: Gender equality

61. Since 2020, has your country taken action to promote gender equality in the forest sector?

Yes

**62. If yes, please indicate the purpose of the action taken to promote gender equality in the forest sector:
(Select all that apply)**

Women's effective access to the control and use of forest resources
Women's effective participation in decision-making at the household and community levels
Women's effective participation and representation in forest management institutions

63. Please provide a brief description of the actions taken to promote gender equality in the forest sector:

Deliberate efforts to involve women on land ownership and forestry related projects to support livelihoods. There are five women owned basket weaving enterprises in Chobe District. Majority of Mophane worm, Devil's claw and thatching grass harvesters are women and youth. The veldt products value chain is predominantly women and youth. Women and youth are being given opportunity to lead forestry management and development with the current Director of Forestry & Range Resources, Deputy Permanent Secretaries in the Ministry of Environment and Tourism are women. Five out of 10(5/10) Forestry and range resources district offices are headed by women.

11. Other questions: International Day of Forests

**64. Since 2020, what actions have been taken in your country in observance of the International Day of Forests?
(Select all that apply)**

Educational activities (for example, workshops and symposiums)
Media activities (for example, newspapers, magazines, television and radio)
Social media activities
Other, please specify: National Commemoration

65. Please provide up to three examples of actions taken in observance of International Day of Forests since 2020. If

possible, include a weblink to relevant documentation.

International Forest Day Action:

1. Tree Planting
2. Agroforestry projects
3. Rehabilitation of degraded lands

Weblink:

International Forest Day Action:

School Outreach Program

Weblink:

International Forest Day Action:

Radio and television Interviews
Pamphlets and promotional materials

Weblink:

12. Success stories

66. Since 2020, does your country have any success stories relating to the implementation of the United Nations strategic plan for forests 2017–2030?

Yes

67. If yes, provide a brief description, with references (such as weblinks, publications and/or articles), showing how the action contributed to achieving the goals and targets. Please specify the relevant GFG targets.

You may provide up to three success stories by clicking on "Add another success story".

Title:

Land Degradation Assessment and Monitoring System

Brief description:

Botswana has successfully developed an online platform for provision of data and information on land degradation monitoring system in the country.

Main results achieved:

1. Generation of real data on land degradation, forest and soil carbon stocks, food security for PRAIS 4 report.
2. Development of Land Degradation Neutrality targets

GFG targets addressed:

1.1
1.2
1.3
1.4
2.1
2.2
2.3
2.4
2.5
3.1
3.3

Weblink:

https://bit.ly/botswana_idn

Title:

National Forest Master Plan

Brief description:

A strategic document to guide all activities on sustainable forest management in Botswana. The Plan outlines a detailed plan for forest management in the country to ensure there is a balance between conservation and economic development in the country with emphasis on promoting livelihoods development.

Main results achieved:

1. Development of National Forest Master Plan
2. Establishment of Agro forestry project in Sheikarawe village
3. Development of a forest resources conservation land mark in Chobe East
4. Development of a fire danger index rating for Botswana
5. Training of communities on sustainable forest management

GFG targets addressed:

1.1
1.2
1.3
1.4
2.1
2.2
2.3
2.4
2.5
3.1
3.2
3.3

Weblink:

Please review your responses. Click on the blue button below to download a PDF copy of your report.

If you wish to make changes, scroll to the bottom of the page and click on the "Back" button to return to the section navigator. To continue with your submission, click on "Upload and Submit" at the bottom of the page.

Please upload the signed cover letter conveying this as the official UNFF report submission for your country.

The cover letter shall include an official letterhead with the full name of country, ministry, and/or institution, mail and email address, phone number and the signature of an authorized senior national official. The file size should not exceed 2MB.

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[Submission of Botswana VOLUNTARY NATIONAL REPORT 2024 to 2026.pdf](#)

Please indicate the date of submission of the national report:
(DD/MM/YYYY)

29/06/2025

By clicking SUBMIT at the bottom of this page, you certify that your report is complete. This action is final and cannot be undone.

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In case of any issues, please reach out to Ms. Nadine Souto (nadine.souto@un.org) and Mr. Tomasz Juszcak (juszcakt@un.org) at the UNFF secretariat.