

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 Juszczak (juszczakt@un.org) from the UNFF secretariat.

1. General information

1. Country:

This question is required

Saudi Arabia

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

Organization: : The National Center for Vegetation Development and Combating Desertification (NCVC)

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)

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

Institution Name:

Email address:

Address:

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):

Saudi Green Initiative

Brief description of the action:

The initiative aims to plant 10 billion trees and is committed to rehabilitating over 74 million hectares of land, restoring natural green spaces in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

Main results achieved for the action:

Over 100 million trees planted

118,000 hectares rehabilitated

This action also contributes to these GFG targets:

1.2

1.3

3.1

3.2

This action contributes to these SDG targets:

15.1

15.2

15.b

Weblink:

<https://www.sgi.gov.sa/about-sgi/>

Action (short title):

National Environment Strategy

Brief description of the action:

Supporting environmental sustainability by preserving natural resources, developing vegetation cover, combating desertification, and rehabilitating degraded ecosystems.

Main results achieved for the action:

Establishment of the National Center for Vegetation Cover
Environmental Law and Its Executive Regulations
Allocation and Classification of Vegetation Land (Forests)

This action also contributes to these GFG targets:

1.2
1.3
3.1
3.2
5.1
5.4

This action contributes to these SDG targets:

15.1
15.2
15.b

Weblink:

<https://www.mewa.gov.sa/en/ministry/initiatives/sectorstratigy/documents/6.%20bah-mewa-ksa%20nes-ceda%20executive%20summary%20v3%2020180221%20eng.pdf>

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):

Mangrove Afforestation

Brief description of the action:

Aims to plant 100 million mangrove trees along the Red Sea and Arabian Gulf coasts by 2030.

Main results achieved for the action:

13 million mangrove trees planted

This action also contributes to these GFG targets:

1.1
1.4
2.5
3.2

This action also contributes to these SDG targets:

15.1
15.2
15.b
Other, please specify: 13-14

Weblink:

Action (short title):

Renewable Energy

Brief description of the action:

Accelerating Saudi Arabia's green transition journey and mitigating the impacts of climate change.

Main results achieved for the action:

17 carbon-preserving renewable energy projects established

This action also contributes to these GFG targets:

2.4

This action also contributes to these SDG targets:

Other, please specify: 13

Weblink:

<https://my.gov.sa/en/content/110089>

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 Forest Management Plans Development

Brief description of the action:

One of the key targets of the Strategic Forest Plan is to develop sustainable management plans for 100 forests.

Main results achieved for the action:

Completion of 18 sustainable forest management plans across the Kingdom

This action also contributes to these GFG targets:

3.1
3.2
5.1
5.2
6.3
6.4

This action also contributes to these SDG targets:

Other, please specify: 3-9-11

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):

Forest Land Monitoring System Design

Brief description of the action:

The National Center for Vegetation Cover Development and Combating Desertification is implementing a project to design and establish a comprehensive forest land monitoring system.

Main results achieved for the action:

Installation of observation towers

This action also contributes to these GFG targets:

2.5
5.2

This action also contributes to these SDG targets:

15.1
15.2
15.b
Other, please specify: 11-13

Weblink:

Action (short title):

National Forest Inventory Program

Brief description of the action:

Compiling comprehensive forest information through inventory and assessment across all regions of the Kingdom

Main results achieved for the action:

Forest data collection for 5 Governorate

This action also contributes to these GFG targets:

3.1
3.2
4.5
5.3

This action also contributes to these SDG targets:

15.1
15.2
15.b

Weblink:

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.

Arid Climate & Water Scarcity:

Saudi Arabia's hyper-arid environment limits natural forest growth, requiring energy-intensive irrigation for afforestation.

Land Degradation & Desertification:

Overgrazing, urban expansion, and historical agricultural practices

Data Gaps:

Limited baseline forest inventories hinder progress tracking for the Global Forest Goals

Institutional Coordination:

Aligning cross-sectoral efforts requires stronger integration between ministries.

Community Engagement:

Low public awareness of forest conservation's

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):

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 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):

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 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):

Saudi Vision 2030

Brief description of the action:

Developing strategies aimed at promoting food sector growth, addressing climate change challenges and combating water scarcity issues

Main results achieved for the action:

- The Kingdom has supported global efforts with \$500 million
- Building a sustainable agricultural sector
- Strengthening supporting sectors for food systems
- Developing systems and improving agricultural productivity
- Worked to enhance research and innovation capacities to ensure sustainable progress in food security

This action also contributes to these GFG targets:

- 1.2
- 1.3
- 2.4
- 3.1
- 3.2
- 3.3
- 5.1
- 6.3

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):

Investment Opportunities in Vegetation Development

Brief description of the action:

The National Center for Vegetation Cover Development and Combating Desertification provides numerous investment opportunities, either seasonal or long-term, in accordance with environmental investment standards and regulations.

Main results achieved for the action:

- Providing opportunities for beekeepers
- Creating opportunities for plant nurseries
- Opportunities for removing and treating invasive/harmful plants and converting them into alternative economic products.
- Dry Forest Management Opportunities: Creating Value from Silvicultural Waste through Circular Economy Solutions

This action also contributes to these GFG targets:

2.2
3.3

This action also contributes to these SDG targets:

15.1
15.2
15.b
Other, please specify: 12.5-8

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):

Saudi Green Initiative Achievements

Brief description of the action:

The Saudi Green Initiative aims to protect 30% of the Kingdom's terrestrial and marine areas and restore their ecological systems.

Main results achieved for the action:

- 15,000 km² protected area
- 38M m² desert preserved
- 1,200 animals reintroduced
- Sustainable agroforestry pilot

This action also contributes to these GFG targets:

- 1.1
- 1.2
- 1.3
- 1.4
- 3.2
- 5.2
- 6.3

This action also contributes to these SDG targets:

- 15.1
- 15.2
- 15.b
- Other, please specify: 13-14-15.3-15.5

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.

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):

Saudi Green Initiative

Brief description of the action:

Transforming 30% of the Kingdom's territories into protected natural areas by 2030.

Main results achieved for the action:

Establishing 8 natural reserves across the Kingdom's regions

This action also contributes to these GFG targets:

1.1
1.2
1.3
3.2
5.2
6.3

This action also contributes to these SDG targets:

15.1
15.2
Other, please specify: 13.2-11.4-17.16

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):

Sustainable Forest Management & Development Initiative

Brief description of the action:

The National Center for Vegetation Cover Development and Combating Desertification (NCVC) aims to plant 60 million native tree species across forest areas.

Main results achieved for the action:

3.5 million trees planted

This action also contributes to these GFG targets:

1.1
1.2
1.3
1.4
2.5
3.1
5.1
5.4
6.3

This action also contributes to these SDG targets:

15.1
15.2
Other, please specify: 13.2

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):

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:

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.

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.

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?

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

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.

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.

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?

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

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

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

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?

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

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

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?

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

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

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

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.

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

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):

Sustainable Forest Management & Development Initiative

Brief description of the action:

The National Center for Vegetation Cover Development and Combating Desertification (NCVC) targets restoration of 348,000 hectares of degraded forest areas.

Main results achieved for the action:

17,087.6 hectares rehabilitated

This action also contributes to these GFG targets:

1.1
1.2
1.3
1.4
2.5
3.1
3.2
5.1
5.4
6.3

This action also contributes to these SDG targets:

15.1
15.2
15.b
Other, please specify: 13-15.3-1.3

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:

New legislation
Improved enforcement of existing legislation
Export controls
Import controls
Other, please specify: Saudi Arabia has established strict environmental protection laws, including the Environmental Law enacted by Royal Decree (M/165), to safeguard natural vegetation and ecosystems

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):

Environmental Strategy Implementation

Brief description of the action:

Saudi Arabia's Environmental Laws, Regulations, and National Environment Strategy serve as the cornerstone of an integrated developmental framework, uniting all relevant ministries and entities in coordinated environmental protection efforts.

Main results achieved for the action:

National Environment Strategy
Environmental laws and regulations

This action also contributes to these GFG targets:

5.2
5.4
6.3

This action also contributes to these SDG targets:

15.1
15.2
Other, please specify: 15.3-15.5-13.1-13.2-12.2-6.6

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).

Saudi Arabia engages stakeholders in forest policy through inter-ministerial committees, public consultations, and local community participation, supported by private sector partnerships and digital monitoring. These inclusive mechanisms align with national and global sustainability goals while maintaining room for enhanced indigenous engagement

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.**

Saudi Arabia is advancing gender equality through groundbreaking reforms, with women now leading in education and increasingly in the workforce. Vision 2030's empowerment initiatives are opening new opportunities in entrepreneurship, STEM fields and leadership roles, while progressive policies continue to break barriers. The Kingdom's commitment to women's participation reflects its vision for an inclusive, thriving society where all talents are valued

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):

Government enforcement system for forest conservation

Brief description of the action:

Saudi Arabia has established strict environmental regulations through its Environmental System to govern natural resource use and preserve biodiversity.

Main results achieved for the action:

Approval of the Environmental Law under Royal Decree (M/165)

This action also contributes to these GFG targets:

1.3
2.5
3.2
5.2
5.3
5.4

This action also contributes to these SDG targets:

15.1
15.2
Other, please specify: 6.3

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):

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 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
Other, please specify: Saudi Green Initiative Monitoring Indicators

**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):: UNCCD (Land Degradation Neutrality targets) FAO (Global Forest Resources Assessment)

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):

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 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:

-Government Entities:

National Center for Vegetation Cover (NCVC) leads implementation, coordinating with the Ministry of Environment, Water, and Agriculture (MEWA) and regional authorities.

-Private Sector:

Companies support afforestation (e.g., mangrove restoration).

-NGOs & Academia:

The National Center of Wildlife and universities contribute to biodiversity monitoring.

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.

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						
2.2 Access to finance of small forest enterprises						
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						
4.1 Mobilization of resources for SFM						
4.2 Increased forest related financing						
4.3 Enhanced cooperation and partnerships						
4.4 Forest financing strategies and access to financing						
4.5 Forest-related information						
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						
6.5 Strengthened involvement of stakeholders						

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:

Saudi Arabia's Voluntary National Contribution under the Saudi Green Initiative (2021) commits to planting 10 billion native trees, rehabilitating 74 million hectares of degraded land, and expanding protected areas to 30% of its territory by 2030.

Progress to date:

+100 million trees planted and 118,000 hectares of degraded land rehabilitated.
8 new natural reserves established,

This action contributes to these GFG targets:

1.1
1.3
3.1

This action contributes to these SDG targets:

15.1
15.2
Other, please specify: 6.6

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)

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

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)

Cultural activities (for example, art, music, film and theatre)
Educational activities (for example, workshops and symposiums)
Media activities (for example, newspapers, magazines, television and radio)
Social media activities

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:

Since 2021, the National Center for Vegetation Cover Development and Combating Desertification (NCVC) has annually commemorated both the International Day of Forests on March 21 and the International Day for the Conservation of the Mangrove Ecosystem on July 26. These observances are marked by organizing a series of specialized forums and workshops with broad participation from relevant government entities, private sector representatives, local community members, as well as international and regional specialized organizations.

These events aim to raise environmental awareness about the importance of forests and their vital role in maintaining ecological balance. They highlight forests' positive impacts and their effective contribution to mitigating climate change effects. The activities include specialized workshops and lectures delivered by select local and international experts.

Weblink:

<https://ncvc.gov.sa/ar/Pages/default.aspx> <https://www.spa.gov.sa/w1529434> <https://www.spa.gov.sa/8433a9bd13>
<https://www.spa.gov.sa/c071da546ds> <https://www.spa.gov.sa/ar/w2285307>

International Forest Day Action:

The National Center for Vegetation Cover Development and Combating Desertification organizes extensive afforestation campaigns coinciding with global environmental days, planting native vegetation species across various vegetation cover areas in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. These campaigns actively involve government entities, private sector organizations, and diverse groups from local communities. Interested participants can join these initiatives by registering for volunteer opportunities through the National Volunteer Platform, contributing to vegetation enhancement, raising environmental awareness, and promoting active community participation in environmental conservation and sustainability efforts.

Weblink:

<https://ncvc.gov.sa/ar/Pages/default.aspx> <https://wa1al1.com/archives/35708> <https://www.spa.gov.sa/2294253>

International Forest Day Action:

The National Center for Vegetation Cover Development and Combating Desertification celebrates the International Day of Forests through social media by implementing an integrated media strategy aimed at promoting environmental awareness and encouraging community participation. The Center launches interactive digital campaigns featuring specialized hashtags such as #InternationalDayOfForests and #SaudiGreenInitiative, while producing engaging visual content including infographics showcasing local forest statistics, short videos documenting the success of environmental projects, and visual comparisons highlighting improvements in target areas.

The Center emphasizes community engagement by organizing live broadcasts featuring environmental experts, launching tree-planting challenges that encourage followers to share their experiences, and designing interactive maps showing available afforestation sites for volunteering. The campaign also highlights collaboration with environmental influencers and sister government entities to ensure maximum reach. Statistics indicate these campaigns achieve high interaction rates of up to 40% above daily averages, with posts reaching over 5 million users. This content is published across various digital platforms including X (formerly Twitter) for textual and interactive content, and Instagram for visual materials, contributing to the enhancement of environmental belonging and supporting national policies such as the Saudi Green Initiative.

Weblink:

<https://x.com/ncvcksa/status/1638164229499891715?t=KJl35WfGgbxAVs7FhWqbbw&s=08>
<https://ncvc.gov.sa/ar/Pages/default.aspx> <https://www.spa.gov.sa/N2069793> <https://www.spa.gov.sa/N2286008>
<https://x.com/ncvcksa/status/1816413361355014191?t=a4uswVGErfvMVXQbZSvTpg&s=08>
<https://x.com/ncvcksa/status/1816413361355014191?t=a4uswVGErfvMVXQbZSvTpg&s=08>
https://x.com/ncvcksa/status/1637109741154385920?t=Kp6rSbTwaHfYkn4Nai7M_g&s=08

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:

Brief description:

Main results achieved:

GFG targets addressed:

Weblink:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=w7RcnzhPVhI>

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30/06/2025

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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.