

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

Switzerland

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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**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)**

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Address: : Höhweg 51f
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**4. Institutions involved in the preparation of the national report:
(up to five)**

Institution Name:

Swiss Federal Office for the Environment

Email address:

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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):

Swiss Forest Policy 2020 extended and enhanced beyond 2020

Brief description of the action:

Nationally, while the law does not allow deforestation resulting in total forest area decrease, Swiss forests currently have an area increase. According to the FAO Global Forest Resources Assessment 2020, Switzerland experienced a modest increase in forest area between 1990 and 2020.

Main results achieved for the action:

The total forest area in Switzerland grew from approximately 1.22 million hectares in 1990 to about 1.27 million hectares in 2020, which represents an increase of around 4.1% over the 30-year period.

This action also contributes to these GFG targets:

1.2
1.3
1.4

This action contributes to these SDG targets:

15.1
15.2
15.b

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

Wood products promotion

Brief description of the action:

The "Forest Policy 2020" creates favourable conditions for an efficient and innovative forestry and wood industry.

Main results achieved for the action:

In 2017, the net removal due to harvested wood products was of 166 kt CO₂ (CRF table 4 Gs1).

This action also contributes to these GFG targets:

2.4

This action contributes to these SDG targets:**Weblink:**

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):

Maintaining Swiss carbon stocks through adaptive management

Brief description of the action:

At national level, the main actions are adaptation measures including rejuvenation with more climate resistant species, improvement of the protective forest structure, combatting pests and increasing the sustainable wood use in buildings. These actions are also promoted at the international level.

Main results achieved for the action:

In 2017, Switzerland's removals from forest land were 3.2 million tons CO₂/year. Total net removals from LULUCF for the same period were 1.6 million tons CO₂/year. (CRF Table 4 2019). In 2017, the net removal due to harvested wood products was of 166 kt CO₂ (CRF table 4 Gs1). Due to climate change effects and forest age structure, the carbon sink in Swiss forests is declining.

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

15.2

Weblink:

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):

International financial support of Switzerland for global forests

Brief description of the action:

Switzerland contributes significantly to multilateral funds and programs that directly or indirectly support forests, including through climate and biodiversity finance. Some examples are below.

Estimated Total International Climate and Biodiversity Finance (2021–2023)

Total Public Contributions: CHF 559 million

Private Mobilized Finance: CHF 169 million (≈30%)

Public-Only Biodiversity Finance: CHF 123.8 million¹

These funds support forest-related goals through both direct forest programs and indirect mechanisms like climate mitigation, biodiversity conservation, and sustainable land use.

Main results achieved for the action:

Some Key Multilateral Contributions

1. Global Environment Facility (GEF)

- GEF-8 Replenishment (2022–2026): Switzerland pledged USD 146.6 million.
- This contribution supports global environmental priorities, including biodiversity, climate change, land degradation, and forests.

2. Green Climate Fund (GCF)

- GCF-1 Replenishment (2020–2023): Switzerland contributed USD 150 million.
- GCF-2 Replenishment (2024–2027) is USD 135 million

3. World Bank BioCarbon Fund ISFL: CHF 10 million (2018 – 2030)

4. Amazon Bioeconomy Fund and Amazon Fund

5. UN-REDD: CHF 5 million (2021-2025)

6. Core and voluntary contributions in support of all UN Conventions, UN Agencies, and Forest Policy Processes, both global and regional

7. Blended Finance and Public-Private Partnerships

Switzerland mobilizes private capital through:

Guarantee instruments

First-loss tranches

Green investment funds

Example: FOEN and SECO support blended finance platforms to scale up forest and biodiversity investments.

This action also contributes to these GFG targets:

4.1

4.2

4.3

4.4

This action also contributes to these SDG targets:

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):

Resilience and adaptation of forests in Switzerland

Brief description of the action:

At national level, the Swiss "Forest Policy 2020" and "Forest Policy: objectives and measures 2021-2024" are being implemented.

Description of actions:

Swiss "Forest Policy 2020" and "Forest Policy: objectives and measures 2021-2024":

Objectives, strategic directions and measures

- The sustainable wood use potential is exploited
- Climate change: the forest and use of wood shall contribute to mitigation and the impacts on forest services shall remain minimal
- The protective forest service shall be ensured
- Biodiversity is conserved and selectively improved
- The economic efficiency and performance of the forestry sector improves
- No threat to forest soil, drinking water and tree vitality
- The forest is protected against harmful organisms
- Forest and wildlife are in balance
- The use of the forest for leisure and recreation is respectful
- Education, research and knowledge transfer are guaranteed

Main results achieved for the action:

1.4. At national level, both forest tree species and structure are being modified based on scientific research, stakeholder participation, and bottom-up governance structures. Communities and forest owners together with researchers and governmental entities are engaging in trials, as well as acting together in forests where climate damage has occurred. The federal government is improving the information exchange via new technologies for mapping and providing technical inputs to decision making on the ground. The 2017 revised law allows for taking measures to combat invasive species such as the recently increasing Asian longhorn beetle population. The law also foresees measures to promote native and sustainably produced wood in the Swiss building sector.

This action also contributes to these GFG targets:

- 3.1
- 3.2
- 3.3

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

Forest Policy: objectives and measures 2021–2024

Action (short title):

Technical and scientific actions for forest adaptation in Switzerland

Brief description of the action:

The Swiss Federal Office for the Environment (OFEV), with the Forest, Snow and Landscape Institute engaged in a Forest and Climate Research Program from 2009-2018. Among others, the conclusions were the following: while the global temperature since 1880 rose of 0.85 degrees C, in Switzerland, it rose 1.8 degrees C for same period. By 2100, the increase in temperature in Switzerland is expected to be of 4.8 degrees C (over 1980-2009 average).

Basic considerations for actions on a national level:

- By 2050, the danger of reduced forest protective functions is expected, obliging to act now in order to be prepared
- The selection of future resilient species is already considered today, to be integrated into forest management regimes, for example silver fir (*Abies alba*), Douglas fir (*Pseudotsuga menziesii*), Sequoia (*Abies grandis*), oak (*Quercus petraea* and *Q. robur*)
- Protection forest is in danger due to advanced age structure, drought and increased fire danger, therefore rejuvenation and prevention of fires are needed.
- Expected higher incidence of storms makes rejuvenation measures essential, as shorter recuperation time will become the norm.
- There is a need to combat bark beetles incidence (*Ips typographus* on Spruce and *Anoplophora glabripennis* on broadleaf).
- In Switzerland, due to important regional differentiation with ecological differences, measures are undertaken to mitigate habitat change forcing species migration, impacts in growth, mortality, and rejuvenation.
- Water management measures, as it is becoming generally dryer, with a higher mortality occurring in pine (*Pinus sylvestris*, *P. mugo*), silver fir (*Abies alba*), spruce (*Picea abies*), beech (*Fagus sylvatica*), and maple (*Acer pseudoplatanus*).

Main results achieved for the action:**This action also contributes to these GFG targets:**

3.1
3.2
3.3

This action also contributes to these SDG targets:

15.1
15.2
15.b

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

International technical and scientific actions

Brief description of the action:

1. Bilateral Research and Innovation Cooperation (SERI & SNSF)

- Managed by: State Secretariat for Education, Research and Innovation (SERI) and Swiss National Science Foundation (SNSF)
- Scope: Joint research projects with countries including Brazil, China, India, South Africa, Vietnam, Argentina, and South Korea
- Focus Areas: Climate change, biodiversity, sustainable land use, and forest ecosystems
- Mechanism: Co-funded research projects and Leading House initiatives to build long-term partnerships

2. Swissnex Network

- Managed by: SERI and the Federal Department of Foreign Affairs (FDFA)
- Role: Facilitates scientific diplomacy and connects Swiss researchers with global partners
- Locations: Offices in Boston, San Francisco, Shanghai, Bangalore, Rio de Janeiro, and more
- Activities: Organizes scientific exchanges, innovation showcases, and collaborative research platforms

3. WSL International Scientific Collaboration

Institution: Swiss Federal Institute for Forest, Snow and Landscape Research (WSL)

Projects:

- ICP Forests: Monitoring forest health across Europe
- Tree-ring research: Climate reconstruction in regions like Tasmania and New Zealand
- Remote sensing and AI: Forest monitoring in collaboration with international partners

4. Technical Assistance and Capacity Building (SDC & FOEN)

Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC):

- Supports inclusive forest governance, biodiversity conservation and climate adaptation and mitigation in Andean, especially in African, and Asian regions,
- Provides technical training and tools for forest inventory, carbon accounting, and ecosystem services and nature-based solutions,
- Aligns all engagements with the principles of gender equality, women's empowerment and improved livelihoods for vulnerable populations

Federal Office for the Environment (FOEN):

- Shares Swiss expertise in forest policy, hazard protection, and biodiversity monitoring
- Participates in UNECE/FAO and UNFCCC technical working groups

Main results achieved for the action:

This action also contributes to these GFG targets:

- 3.1
- 3.2
- 3.3
- 4.1
- 4.2
- 4.3
- 4.4
- 4.5

This action also contributes to these SDG targets:

- 6.6
- 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.

Forest owners and communities' ability to rejuvenate forests are challenged by low wood prices, high labor costs, and the resulting economic difficulties of the management enterprises. This contributes to endangerment and loss of the ecosystem services of forests through under-management and budgetary limitations.

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):

Swiss bilateral aid

Brief description of the action:

The Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC) supports forest-based livelihoods in developing countries, particularly through sustainable forest management and agroforestry programs.

The SDC plays a central role in implementing forest-related international cooperation, particularly through its thematical Section Climate, DRR and Environment. Key initiatives include:

- Contribution to UN-REDD to strengthen social forestry in the ASEAN region and Africa,
- Contribution to IUCN to support implementation of the Nature 2030 Programme,
- Contribution to the BioCarbon Fund Initiative Sustainable Forest Landscapes,
- Implementation of the Landscape Fire Management in the Western Balkan Programme.

Main results achieved for the action:

- Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC): Leads programs in forest-rich developing countries to improve livelihoods through sustainable forest management and agroforestry.
 - Humanitarian Aid and Development Division: Integrates forest-based poverty alleviation into broader rural development strategies.
- SDC Forest and Livelihood Programs: Funded under Switzerland's development cooperation budget.
Estimated allocation: Part of the CHF 559 million, though not disaggregated specifically for poverty reduction.

Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC) funds forest-based livelihood projects in countries like Nepal and Bolivia/Peru, Armenia, North Macedonia and the ASEAN Region.
These projects integrate forest conservation with income generation, often through agroforestry and community forest management.

This action also contributes to these GFG targets:

1.1
2.2
6.1

This action also contributes to these SDG targets:

15.2
15.b

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

Swiss multi-lateral aid

Brief description of the action:

Fair Trade and Ethical Sourcing: Swiss policies promote responsible business conduct abroad, including in forest product supply chains, under the Responsible Business Initiative and its counter-proposal, which became law in 2022

The State Secretariat for Economic Affairs (SECO)

SECO complements Switzerland's international forest-related efforts by focusing on the economic and trade dimensions of sustainable forest management, particularly in developing and emerging economies.

a. Sustainable Trade and Value Chains (GFG 2 & GFG 4)

SECO supports sustainable forest-based value chains through:

- Timber Legality and Traceability Initiatives: Promoting legal and sustainable timber trade, especially in countries like Indonesia, Vietnam, and Ghana.
- Support for Forest Certification: Encouraging the use of certification schemes (e.g., FSC, PEFC) to ensure sustainable forest product sourcing.
- Public-Private Partnerships: Working with the private sector to integrate sustainability into supply chains.

b. Green Economy and Climate Finance (GFG 1 & GFG 5)

SECO funds programs that:

- Promote green economic development in forest-rich countries.
- Support climate-smart forestry and REDD+ readiness through multilateral platforms like the Forest Carbon Partnership Facility (FCPF) and the BioCarbon Fund.

c. Capacity Building and Governance (GFG 5 & GFG 6)

SECO enhances forest governance by:

- Supporting institutional reforms and policy frameworks that improve forest management.
- Funding technical assistance and training for forest-related ministries and agencies in partner countries.

Main results achieved for the action:

This action also contributes to these GFG targets:

1.1
2.2
6.1

This action also contributes to these SDG targets:

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):

Increase Access of Small-Scale Forest Enterprises to Financial Services

Brief description of the action:

- Swiss International Cooperation: Through the SDC and SECO (State Secretariat for Economic Affairs), Switzerland supports small-scale forest enterprises in developing countries by:
 - Facilitating access to microfinance and credit.
 - Supporting value chain integration and certification schemes (e.g., FSC).
- Climate & Innovation Act (2023): Although focused on domestic emissions, it includes financial incentives for innovation in forest-related sectors, indirectly supporting small enterprises

Main results achieved for the action:

- State Secretariat for Economic Affairs (SECO): Supports forest-based SMEs in developing countries through trade facilitation, value chain development, and access to finance.
- Swiss Investment Fund for Emerging Markets (SIFEM): Provides impact investment capital to forest-related enterprises in low-income countries.

Swiss Investment Fund for Emerging Markets (SIFEM):

Provides equity and debt financing to forest-related SMEs in developing countries.

No exact figure disclosed, but SIFEM's total portfolio exceeds CHF 1 billion, with a portion directed to sustainable forestry and agriculture

SIFEM (Swiss Investment Fund for Emerging Markets) invests in forestry-related SMEs and funds that support sustainable land use.

Switzerland also supports value chain development and certification schemes (e.g., FSC) through bilateral aid.

This action also contributes to these GFG targets:

4.1
4.2
4.3
4.4
4.5

This action also contributes to these SDG targets:

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):

Increase Forests' Contribution to Food Security

Brief description of the action:

- Agroforestry Promotion: Swiss-funded international projects promote agroforestry systems that enhance food security and resilience in rural communities.
- Research and Knowledge Transfer: Swiss institutions like ETH Zurich and FiBL (Research Institute of Organic Agriculture) contribute to global agroforestry and food-forest research.

Main results achieved for the action:

- Federal Office for Agriculture (FOAG): Promotes agroforestry and sustainable land use practices in international cooperation projects.
- Swiss Research Institutions: ETH Zurich and FiBL contribute to global agroecological research, including food-forest systems.

Agroforestry and food security projects: Funded through SDC and FOAG.
Estimated funding: Included in broader rural development and climate adaptation budgets.

Agroforestry and food-forest systems are supported through SDC's climate-smart agriculture programs.
These initiatives are part of broader food security strategies in Sub-Saharan Africa and Southeast Asia.

This action also contributes to these GFG targets:

4.1
4.2
4.3
4.4
4.5

This action also contributes to these SDG targets:

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):

Enhance Forest Industry and Ecosystem Services for Development

Brief description of the action:

- Federal Act on Forests: This foundational law ensures sustainable forest management and supports the multifunctional role of forests, including economic and social services
- Climate & Innovation Act: Provides CHF 3.2 billion over 10 years to support innovation in sectors including forestry, with a focus on carbon capture, biodiversity, and renewable energy
- Public-Private Partnerships: Switzerland encourages collaboration between government, academia, and industry to develop forest-based bioeconomy initiatives.

Main results achieved for the action:

- Federal Office for the Environment (FOEN): Oversees implementation of the Forest Policy 2020 and Forest Act, which support multifunctional forest use, including timber, recreation, and ecosystem services.
- Swiss Federal Institute for Forest, Snow and Landscape Research (WSL): Provides scientific support for sustainable forest industry development and ecosystem service valuation.

Climate & Innovation Act (2023):

Allocates CHF 3.2 billion over 10 years for innovation, including forest-based carbon capture and ecosystem services
Forest sector receives a share through grants and incentives for sustainable practices.

Switzerland funds forest ecosystem service valuation and sustainable forest industry development through:

- Multilateral partnerships (e.g., with FAO, UNFF)
- Bilateral technical assistance and innovation grants
- Part of the CHF 3.2 billion Climate & Innovation Act budget is expected to support international forest-based innovation

This action also contributes to these GFG targets:

4.1
4.2
4.3
4.4
4.5

This action also contributes to these SDG targets:

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):

Enhance Forests' Role in Biodiversity and Climate Action

Brief description of the action:

- Climate & Innovation Act (2023): Legally binds Switzerland to net-zero emissions by 2050, with forests playing a key role in carbon sequestration .
- Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC): Switzerland's updated NDC under the Paris Agreement includes forest-related mitigation and adaptation strategies
- Biodiversity Strategy: Forests are central to Switzerland's national biodiversity goals, with protected areas and ecological corridors being expanded.

Main results achieved for the action:

- Interdepartmental Sustainable Development Committee (ISDC): Coordinates cross-sectoral implementation of the 2030 Agenda, including forest-related climate and biodiversity goals
- Swiss NDC Implementation Task Force: Includes FOEN and other agencies to ensure forests contribute to climate mitigation and adaptation.
- Biodiversity Monitoring Switzerland (BDM): Tracks forest biodiversity trends and informs conservation policy.

International Biodiversity Finance: CHF 123.8 million (2022–2023), almost entirely public

- Switzerland's international biodiversity finance (CHF 123.8 million) supports:
 - Forest conservation in biodiversity hotspots
 - REDD+ programs (Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation)
 - Implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework

Swiss Emissions Trading System (ETS): Revenues earmarked for climate and biodiversity projects, including forest conservation.

This action also contributes to these GFG targets:

This action also contributes to these SDG targets:

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.

In general, the Swiss population has a very strong relationship with forests and are dependent on forests for culture, recreation and touristic benefits. The protection of population and infrastructure is very important for the Swiss population. Biodiversity is the basis for human life. Therefore, all these actions contribute to a better livelihood.

It is important for the Swiss forest industries to sell wood products on the European markets. Due to the high value of the Swiss franc, it is getting more difficult.

Another challenge is the structure of forest ownership; the average property area of the 250'000 forest owners in Switzerland is 0.6 hectare.

Besides the wooden products, the pricing of the forest ecosystem services has no tradition – the services are considered free of charge by the society.

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):

see answers to target 4

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 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):

Swiss protection and conservation of forests

Brief description of the action:

Swiss forests are strictly protected by law. An area cannot be converted into any other land use change (as agriculture, mining, infrastructure, etc.), except if a national interest would demand it imposing a very careful interdisciplinary approval procedure.

All forests must be sustainably managed and with a close to nature management.

As of the most recent updates, Switzerland has allocated CHF 451 million specifically for forests as part of a broader environmental investment package running through 2028

Federal Budget for Forests (2024–2028)

- Total Environmental Budget: CHF 2.207 billion
- Forests: CHF 451 million
- Purpose: This funding supports sustainable forest management, biodiversity, and protection against natural hazards.
- Mechanism: Funds are distributed through program agreements between the federal government and the cantons, typically over four-year cycles.

Main results achieved for the action:

According to the Forest Report 2025 by the Swiss Federal Office for the Environment (FOEN) and the Swiss Federal Institute for Forest, Snow and Landscape Research (WSL), Switzerland's forest area has increased only slightly over the past decade

Key Insights:

- The increase is modest and mostly occurs at higher altitudes, particularly where Alpine farming has been abandoned.
- The total growing stock has remained stable at around 420 million cubic metres.
- Regional variation exists:
 - Increase in the Alps and southern Switzerland.
 - Slight decrease in the Jura and Swiss Plateau, due to more intensive use and climate-related damage.

Estimated Annual Increase

While the report does not specify an exact annual percentage, the net forest area gain is minimal, likely less than 0.1% per year, based on long-term trends and FAO data

This action also contributes to these GFG targets:

3.1
3.3

This action also contributes to these SDG targets:

6.6
15.1
15.2

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):

Wood resource policy in Switzerland

Brief description of the action:

Wood Resource Policy 2030 – Key Points

1. Strategic Vision

Wood is seen as a renewable, climate-neutral resource that supports Switzerland's transition to a bio-based economy. The policy aligns with broader goals in climate, energy, forest, and regional development, and contributes to the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) 1.

2. Objectives

Promote sustainable forest management and ensure long-term wood supply.

Increase the use of wood in construction, energy, and industry.

Enhance innovation and competitiveness in the wood sector.

Strengthen rural areas and regional economies through wood-based value chains.

3. Wood Action Plan (2021–2026)

Implements the policy through concrete projects and funding.

Focuses on:

Cascade use (prioritizing material use before energy use),

Circular economy principles,

Bioeconomy development,

Digitalization and innovation in the wood industry 1.

4. Cross-sectoral Collaboration

Involves multiple federal offices (e.g., FOEN, FOAG, SFOE) and stakeholders from forestry, construction, energy, and education sectors.

5. Monitoring and Evaluation

Includes measurable indicators and targets to track progress.

Encourages adaptive management based on evolving environmental and economic conditions.

Main results achieved for the action:

Over the past 10 years, wood product output in Switzerland has generally increased, particularly in recent years. Here are some key insights:

According to the UNECE 2022 Market Statement, the demand and production of timber and wood-based products in Switzerland reached their highest levels in a long time by mid-2022 1. This was partly due to a strong recovery in the domestic economy following the COVID-19 pandemic.

Statista projects that the output of the wood market in Switzerland will reach approximately \$10 billion in 2025, with a compound annual growth rate (CAGR) of 0.92% from 2025 to 2029 2. This suggests a steady upward trend in production and market value.

The number of enterprises and employment in the wood sector are also projected to grow slightly, indicating a healthy and expanding industry.

This action also contributes to these GFG targets:

This action also contributes to these SDG targets:

15.2

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.

Conservation and protection of forests is not a problematic issue in Switzerland, as governance is good and government and community work together. For forest products, forest owners are in an economically precarious position

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):

Swiss international climate and biodiversity finance 2022-2023

Brief description of the action:

Switzerland's international cooperation focuses on four main goals:

1. Human development: Saving lives, alleviating human suffering and supporting access to high-quality basic services for the most disadvantaged.
2. Sustainable economic development: Creating decent jobs through appropriate framework conditions, a dynamic local economy and the private sector.
3. Climate and environment: Guaranteeing environmentally-friendly development, resilient to climate change and natural disasters for the benefit of the most disadvantaged.
4. Peace and governance: Resolving conflicts, promoting peace, democracy and the rule of law, and upholding human rights

Switzerland's international cooperation focuses on four main goals:

Geographic and Thematic Focus

- The strategy emphasized fewer partner countries to increase impact and efficiency.
- It prioritized fragile and conflict-affected regions, particularly in Sub-Saharan Africa, Middle East and North Africa, Asia the Middle East, and Eastern Europe.

Financial Framework

- The Federal Council proposed a maximum amount of CHF 11.257 billion for the 2021–20248 period, distributed across five four framework credits:
- Humanitarian aid (SDC)
- Development cooperation (SDC)
- Economic cooperation and development (SECO)
- Promotion of peace and human rights (PHRD)

Main results achieved for the action:

Total International Climate and Biodiversity Finance (2022–2023)

- CHF 559 million total international finance
- CHF 390 million from public sources
- CHF 169 million from private investments
- CHF 123.8 million specifically for international biodiversity finance, nearly all from public funds

Some Key Multilateral Contributions

1. Global Environment Facility (GEF)

- GEF-8 Replenishment (2022–2026): Switzerland pledged USD 146.6 million.
- This contribution supports global environmental priorities, including biodiversity, climate change, land degradation, and forests.

2. Green Climate Fund (GCF)

- GCF-1 Replenishment (2020–2023): Switzerland contributed USD 150 million.
- A new pledge for GCF-2 Replenishment (2024–2027) is expected or under negotiation, but the exact amount has not yet been publicly confirmed.: Switzerland contributes USD 135 million

3. World Bank BioCarbon Fund ISFL: CHF 10 million (2018 – 2030)

4. Amazon Bioeconomy Fund and Amazon Fund

5. UN-REDD: CHF 5 million (2021-2025)

6. Core and voluntary contributions in support of all UN Conventions, UN Agencies, and Forest Policy Processes, both global and regional

7. Blended Finance and Public-Private Partnerships

Switzerland mobilizes private capital through:

Guarantee instruments

First-loss tranches

Green investment funds

Example: FOEN and SECO support blended finance platforms to scale up forest and biodiversity investments.

This action also contributes to these GFG targets:

4.2

4.3

4.4

4.5

This action also contributes to these SDG targets:

15.1
15.2
15.b

Weblink:

Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs website

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):

please see answer to target 4.1

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):

please see answer to 4.1

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

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)

Governments
Intergovernmental organizations and/or processes
Private sector
Non-governmental organizations

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

North-South
South-South
North-North
Triangular

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

Science
Technology

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?

Yes

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

No

**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?

Yes

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

Forest Industry and Ecosystem Services

Swiss Federal Institute for Forest, Snow and Landscape Research (WSL):

- Develops models for sustainable timber harvesting.
- Assesses forest ecosystem services (e.g., carbon storage, recreation, water regulation).
- Life Cycle Assessment (LCA) tools: Used to evaluate the environmental footprint of forest-based products and industries.

Forests for Biodiversity and Climate Action

- Forest Biodiversity Monitoring: Conducted by WSL and Biodiversity Monitoring Switzerland (BDM), tracking species diversity and forest health.
- Carbon Sequestration Modeling: Swiss scientists contribute to global models estimating forest carbon stocks and climate mitigation potential.

Cross-Cutting Scientific Contributions

- Swiss Contributions to IPCC and IPBES: Swiss experts contribute to global assessments on climate and biodiversity, influencing forest-related policy.
- Open Data Platforms: Switzerland supports global forest data sharing through platforms like Global Forest Watch and FAO's FRA (Forest Resources Assessment).

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

Yes

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

2024

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.

The challenges are the low timber prices, that does not encourage to invest. In addition, ecosystem services are not or little compensated by the users.

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):

Intersectoral integration in Switzerland

Brief description of the action:

Switzerland is supporting SFM through policy declarations/resolutions of other sectors (ex: water, biodiversity, etc.) and through projects.

Main results achieved for the action:

Forest areas are part of a national regional planning concept with all land-uses considered, planned and zoned in an integral way.

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

15.2

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:

Improved enforcement of existing legislation
Export controls
Import controls
Bilateral agreements between exporting and importing countries

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):

Policy coherence

Brief description of the action:

Switzerland has a coordination group on forest policy among the Swiss administration. It holds regular meetings, including with interested stakeholders (NGOS).

Main results achieved for the action:

This action also contributes to these GFG targets:

This action also contributes to these SDG targets:

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).

Switzerland has a coordination group on forest policy among the Swiss administration. It holds regular meetings, including with interested stakeholders (NGOS).

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.

1. Rising Temperatures

Switzerland has experienced a 2°C increase in average annual temperature since pre-industrial times 1.

This warming is more pronounced in Alpine regions, accelerating ecological shifts.

2. Tree Species Shifts

Spruce and beech, two dominant species, are increasingly struggling in their current habitats.

Warmer, drier conditions are favoring thermophilic (heat-tolerant) species, leading to changes in forest composition.

3. Drought Stress

Southern regions like Valais and Ticino are already experiencing severe drought impacts.

Drought weakens trees, making them more vulnerable to pests and diseases.

4. Increased Pests and Diseases

Warmer conditions support the spread of invasive insects and pathogens, such as bark beetles.

These outbreaks can cause widespread tree mortality and economic losses.

5. Forest Fires

Higher temperatures and drier conditions increase the risk of wildfires, especially in southern Switzerland.

Fires threaten biodiversity and reduce the protective function of forests.

6. Reduced Ecosystem Services

Forests may become less effective at providing key services, such as:

Carbon storage

Protection against natural hazards (e.g., avalanches, rockfalls)

Biodiversity support

Wood and bioenergy production

7. Long-Term Uncertainty

Climate change introduces high variability and unpredictability, making forest management more complex.

Long-term experiments and models (e.g., FORTE platform) are being used to guide adaptive strategies.

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):

Cross sectoral coordination in Switzerland

Brief description of the action:

Within Switzerland's national adaptation strategy, a cross-sectoral strategy integrating forests is being implemented. Furthermore, the Swiss Sustainable Development Strategy 2016-2019 includes many cross-cutting areas of work.

At the international level, Switzerland also supports enhanced cooperation, coordination, coherence and synergies on forest-related issues through its membership in the International Tropical Timber Organization (ITTO).

Main results achieved for the action:

The Swiss Forest Planning Program developed a set of criteria and indicators for SFM in 2012. These C&I are in agreement with the international criteria and indicators of FAO and Forest Europe.

For international support of Switzerland, please see target 4

This action also contributes to these GFG targets:

This action also contributes to these SDG targets:

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):

Swiss SFM and indicators

Brief description of the action:

At the national level, the numerous joint activities and projects between the government and many stakeholders, adding to this an intensive public use of forests, provide important ground for interaction on the importance of sustainable forest management.

There is room for improvement as many forest beneficiaries take forest services for granted.

Internationally, Switzerland participates in international forest policy processes such as UNFF, Forest Europe, UNECE-FAO Joint Program, ITTO, international finance institutions and others which are actively promoting sustainable management.

Main results achieved for the action:

The Swiss national forest inventory is carried out constantly and involves a detailed and tailored set of indicators of sustainable management

This action also contributes to these GFG targets:

This action also contributes to these SDG targets:

15.2

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

Regional or international (for instance, those used by the International Tropical Timber Organization, Forest Europe, the Montreal Process and the Tarapoto Proposal on Criteria and Indicators for Sustainability of Amazonian Forests)

**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):: FAO, UNECE, Forest Europe, UNFCCC, UNFF, CBD, etc.

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):

Swiss cooperation with major groups

Brief description of the action:

Internationally, Switzerland engages in work programs and initiatives with major groups. Switzerland is also ensuring that the United Nations strategic plan for forests 2017–2030 is integrated in the Swiss positions for the international forest-related processes, as in UNFCCC, CBD and others.

In Switzerland, there is a general policy across sectors of gender mainstreaming; there is no specific gender policy for the forest sector.

However, at federal, cantonal and sub-cantonal level, promotion of women in forest management structures of the public sector has become more common in the last years.

Each year the federal government and the cantonal bodies as well as the private sector also play an important role organizing events and training together, depending on the topics.

Switzerland is also regularly supporting the activities of the International Day of Forests at the UNECE in Geneva.

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:

Swiss government at all levels and communities carry out the UNSPF at the national level.

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						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?

No

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:

Progress to date:

This action contributes to these GFG targets:

This action contributes to these SDG targets:

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 and representation in forest management institutions

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

In Switzerland, there is a general policy across sectors of gender mainstreaming; there is no specific gender policy for the forest sector.

However, at federal, cantonal and sub-cantonal level, promotion of women in forest management structures of the public sector has become more common in the last years.

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)

Other, please specify: cooperation with UNECE's IDF

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:

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?

No

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:

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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20/06/2025

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

Thank You!

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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.