

Independent Assessment of the International Arrangement on Forests (IAF)

TEAM INCEPTION REPORT

Prepared by the
Assessment Team with inputs from the UNFF Secretariat
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CONTENTS

Оглавление

CONTENTS.....	3
ACRONYMS.....	5
DEFINITIONS AS USED IN THE IAF INDEPENDENT ASSESSMENT PROCESS	7
1. INTRODUCTION.....	9
1.1 The Framework of the Assessment.....	9
1.1.1 Rio Summit and Post-UNCED Dialogue on Forests	9
1.1.2 Forests in the UNCED Land Cluster and the three ‘Rio Conventions’	10
1.2 The Origins of the Present Independent Assessment.....	12
1.3 Purpose of the Inception Report	12
2. BACKGROUND OF THE ASSESSMENT	13
2.1 The Global Context Shaping the International Arrangement on Forests.....	13
2.1.1 The Forest Resource Base.....	13
2.1.2 Forests in a Global Change Perspective.....	14
2.1.3 Global Forest Governance	16
2.2 Overview of UNFF’s mandate	19
2.2.1 Principal Functions of the Forum.....	19
2.2.2 Institutional Set-Up of the IAF and its Mandate.....	22
2.3 Resourcing UNFF.....	28
2.3.1 Funding for Action in SFM.....	28
2.3.2 Resourcing of UNFF Secretariat for Facilitating Dialogue.....	29
3. CONTENT OF THE ASSESSMENT.....	38
3.1 Purpose of the Assessment	38
3.2 Scope of the Assessment	38
3.3 Stakeholder Analysis	39
3.4 Constraints Facing the Assessment	40
4. ASSESSMENT DESIGN.....	40
4.1 Methodology.....	40
4.2 Assessment Questions	41
4.3 Data Collection and Tools	43
4.3.1 Study of former review findings	43

4.3.2 Interviews.....	44
4.4 Quality Assurance.....	44
5. ORGANISATION OF THE ASSESSMENT	45
5.1 Roles and Responsibilities	45
5.2 Timeline.....	46
5.3 Travel of the Independent Assessment Team Members	47
5.4 Consolidation Phase (Feb – June 2014).....	48
5.5 Deliverables	48
INCEPTION REPORT: KEY DOCUMENTS AND REFERENCES	49
ANNEXES.....	52
Annex 1: TOR of the Independent Assessment.....	52
Annex 2: Current initiatives that shape global forest policies beyond UNFF	59
Annex 3: Organisations with a mandate on forestry, and their link to the IAF [initial list, with potential to be completed]	65
Annex 4: Proposed Table of Contents for the Main Consultant Report on the Assessment of the IAF68	68
Annex 5: Overview on Former Assessments of the International Arrangements on Forests	71
Annex 7: Participation in UNFF Workshops, Participation in UNFF Workshops, Country-Led Initiatives, Organization-Led Initiatives, and Ad-Hoc Expert Group meetings	72
Annex 8: Official documents and decisions of the CPF member organizations with reference to UNFF and Forest Instrument since 2005	85
Annex 9: List of official documents with reference to UNFF and FI.....	85

ACRONYMS

AfDB	African Development Bank
AFF	African Forest Forum
AFP	Asia Forest Partnership
AFP	Asia Forest Partnership
AGF	Advisory Group on Finance of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests
AHEG	Open-Ended Intergovernmental Ad Hoc Expert Group
BH	Budget holders
CBFF	Congo Basin Forest Fund
COMIFAC	Commission on Forests in Central Africa
C&I	Criteria & Indicators for sustainable forest management
CBD	Convention on Biological Diversity
CIFOR	Center for International Forestry Research (CGIAR)
CIS	Commonwealth of Independent States
COFO	Committee on Forestry
COP	Conference of the Parties to a convention
CPF	Collaborative Partnership on Forests
CSD	Commission for Sustainable Development (CSD)
DESA	Department of Economic and Social Affairs
ECOSOC	Economic and Social Commission of the United Nations
ECOWAS	Economic Community of West African States
EFC	European Forestry Commission
EIB	European Investment Bank
EU	European Union
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations.
FAO-FD	Forest Department of the FAO
FCPF	Forest Carbon Partnership Facility, managed by the World Bank
FE	Forest Europe, formally Ministerial Conference on Protection of Forests in Europe
FI	Forest Instrument Non Legally Binding Instrument on All Types of Forests
FE	Forest Europe, formally Ministerial Conference on Protection of Forests in Europe
FLEG	Forest law enforcement and governance (process)
FLEGT	Forest law enforcement and governance and trade (EU initiative)
FP	FP Facilitative Process of the UNFF
FRA	Forest Resource Assessment
GEF	Global Environment Facility
GA	General Assembly of the United Nations
GOF	Global Objectives on Forests
IADB	Inter-American Development Bank
IAF	International arrangement on Forests
IBRD	International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (World Bank)
ICRAF	World Agroforestry Center (CGIAR)
IFF	Intergovernmental Forum on Forests
IPCC	Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change
IPF	Intergovernmental Programme on Forests
IPG	International Public Good
ITTA	International Tropical Timber Agreement
ITTO	International Tropical Timber Organization
IUCN	The World Conservation Union
IUFRO	International Union of Forest Research Organizations
LDC	Least Developed Country
LFCC	Low Forest Cover Country
MDG	Millennium Development Goal
MEA	MEA Multilateral Environmental Agreement
MoI	Means of Implementation
MRV	Monitoring, Reporting and Verification (term in REDD+)
NFF	National Forest Fund

NFPF	National Forest Programme Facility
NFPs	National Forest Programmes
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
NLBI	Non Legally Binding on All Types of Forests
PROFOR	Program on Forests (World Bank managed)
RDB	Regional Development Bank
RECOFTC	The Centre for Forests and People
REDD	Reduced Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation
REDD+	Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation, and the Role of Conservation, Sustainable Management of Forests and Enhancement of Forest Carbon Stocks
SIDS	Small Island Developing States
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
SFM	Sustainable Forest Management
SLM	Sustainable Land Management
SWOT	Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats analysis
TEEB	The Economics of Ecosystems and Biodiversity
TFAP	Tropical Forest Action Plan
UNCCD	UN Convention to Combat Desertification
UNCED	UN Conference on Environment and Development
UNDAF	UN Development Assistance Framework
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNECE	UN Economic Commission for Europe
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
UNFCCC	UN Framework Convention on Climate Change
UNFF	United Nations Forum on Forests
UNFFS	United Nations Forum on Forests Secretariat
UNGA	United Nations General Assembly
WB	World Bank (International Bank for Reconstruction and Development - IBRD)
WFP	World Food Programme

DEFINITIONS AS USED IN THE IAF INDEPENDENT ASSESSMENT PROCESS

Biological Diversity / Biodiversity. The variability among living organisms from all sources, including *inter alia* terrestrial, marine, and other aquatic ecosystems and the ecological complexes of which they are a part: this includes diversity within species, between species, and of ecosystems. (Convention on Biological Diversity, Article 2)

Deforestation. The conversion of a forest into another land-use (ITTO 2013). Also, the long-term reduction of the tree canopy cover below the minimum 10 percent threshold (FAO 2010).

Ecosystem Services. The multitude of resources and processes that are supplied by nature. (ORIGINAL SOURCE?)

Food Security. Food security exists when all people, at all times, have physical, social and economic access to sufficient, safe and nutritious food that meets their dietary needs and food preferences for an active and healthy life (World Summit on Food Security, Rome, November 2009)

Forest. Forest is defined at national level. In general terms, forests is land spanning over a minimum area, a minimum height that trees can reach *in situ* when mature, and a minimum canopy cover over the given area. UNFCCC (2001), CBD (2002) and UNFF/FAO (2001) have provided generic definitions of forests. UNFF/FAO (2001): Land spanning more than 0.5 hectares with trees higher than five metres and a canopy cover of more than 10%, or trees able to reach those thresholds *in situ*. It does not include land that is predominantly under agricultural or urban use.

Forest degradation. Reduction of the capacity of a forest to provide goods and services. ‘Capacity’ includes the maintenance of the elasticity of ecosystem structures and functions (ITTO 2002).

Forest Instrument. Short term for the Non-legally Binding Instrument on all types of forests.

Forestry. Forestry is the art and science of managing forests and trees, embracing a broad range of concerns which include providing timber, fuelwood and non-wood forest products, biodiversity management, wildlife habitat management, watershed management and water quality management, recreation, landscape protection and erosion control, employment, and sinks for atmospheric carbon dioxide (ITTO 2002).

(Forest) Governance. A policy and political approach related to defining the elements needed to conserve and sustainably managing forests (ITTO 2013).

Governance. Governance is the process of governing, the way in which society is managed and how the competing priorities and interests of different groups are reconciled. It includes the formal institutions of government but also informal arrangements. Governance is concerned with the processes by which citizens participate in decision-making, how government is accountable to its citizens and how society obliges its members to observe its rules and laws (FAO 2009).

International Arrangement on Forests (IAF). An informal title given to the actors who constitute the UNFF’s members and a broader list of forest impacting and relevant organizations. The first and primary are Member States and countries who are members of the Forum, acting individually and working together as the Forum. The second is the Forest Instrument and its four Global Objectives on Forests adopted by UNFF 7 and subsequently by the General Assembly of the United Nations in 2007, including the contribution of forests to the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals. The third component is the UNFF Secretariat. The fourth is the voluntary partnership of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests (CPF) and other relevant IGOs and regional organizations in contributing to the work of the UNFF individually and collectively, including implementation of the Resolutions of the Forum. The fifth are Major Groups who take part in the Forum’s sessions and support the implementation of its resolutions.

Legally Binding Agreement (LBA). LBA being defined here as an international agreement, synonymous with ‘treaty’ or ‘convention’, concluded between States in written form and recognised in international law as comprising binding commitments for the States that are party to it.

Legally binding agreement on forests in Europe. Regional forest agreement negotiated by the Intergovernmental Negotiated Committee for a Legally Binding Agreement on Forests in Europe (INC-Forests, 2013).

Major Groups. Within the UN sustainable development context, consist of Business and Industry, Children and Youth, Farmers, Indigenous Peoples, Local Authorities, NGOs, the Scientific and Technological Community, Women, and Workers and Trade Unions (Agenda 21, 1992).

Non-legally binding instrument on all types of forests (NLBI) or Forest Instrument). Being defined here as an international agreement for the sustainable management of all types of forests, concluded between States in written form, containing four Global Objectives on Forests adopted by UNFF 7 and subsequently by the General Assembly of the United Nations in 2007, including the contribution of forests to the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals.

REDD+. Policy approaches and positive incentives on issues relating to reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation in developing countries; and the role of conservation, sustainable management of forests and enhancement of forest carbon stocks in developing countries (UNFCCC 2009).

Sustainable Forest Management (SFM). A dynamic and evolving concept, aims to maintain and enhance the economic, social and environmental values of all types of forests, for the benefit of present and future generations”. (United Nations General Assembly Resolution 62/98, New York, December 2007).

User rights. The rights to the use of forest resources as defined by local custom or agreements or prescribed by other entities holding access rights. These rights may restrict the use of particular resources to specific harvesting levels or specific extraction techniques. (ITTO 2013)

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 The Framework of the Assessment

1.1.1 *Rio Summit and Post-UNCED Dialogue on Forests*

1. In pursuit of its mandate under the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC), the Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD) undertook in 1995 a review of progress in implementing the decisions made at the 1992 United Nations Conference on Environment (UNCED) – the Rio Summit. Key among the tasks was an implementation review of Agenda 21, which in forestry meant Chapter 11 of Agenda 21 “*Combating Deforestation*” as well as the “*Non-Legally Binding Statement of Principles for a Global Consensus on the Management, Conservation and Sustainable Development of all Types of Forests*” (the “Forest Principles”). It is relevant to the assessment that forests were taken up not in isolation but as part of the sectoral cluster “*Land, desertification, forests and biodiversity*”; it is also relevant to note that the CSD considered all Rio agreements to be interlinked – thus, for example, progress on matters such as responsible consumption and production patterns, trade and participation of major groups, among others, were also applicable to the sectoral clusters and their individual chapters.

2. Of immediate interest to forests, the Rio Summit also took important decisions under Agenda 21 on Integrated Management of Land, Agriculture and Sustainable Mountain Ecosystems (UN. 1995) Furthermore, it adopted three legally binding agreements relevant to forests: (1) the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), (2) the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and (3) the UN Convention to Combat Desertification and Drought particularly in Africa (UNCDD). The CSD exhorted member states to sign, ratify, accede and implement in a coordinated fashion the three Conventions and to act on the land-related chapters of Agenda 21. Although recognising that they had important elements on forests, the CSD nevertheless still retained specific attention to forests as a unified sector under Chapter 11 and under the related Forest Principles.

3. The Rio Summit had failed to agree upon a forest convention. CSD3 could not make further progress either and consequently launched the “*Open-ended Intergovernmental Panel on Forests*” (IPF) under its oversight to pursue further dialogue on forest issues in Agenda 21 and the Forest Principles. At that time and for long afterwards, forest issues were so contentious that meetings on this topic, whether under the IPF or other government or agency-related processes, far outnumbered fora organised to cover all the other chapters in the land cluster. The debates outlived the IPF (1995-1997), which then morphed into the Intergovernmental Forum on Forests (IFF) 1997-2000 and in 2002 into the UN Forum on Forests (UNFF). It took another five years under the UNFF before the 62d session of the UN General Assembly (UN, 2007) adopted a non-legally binding instrument on forests on December 17, 2007. Consensus to get a global legally binding agreement on forests has not yet materialised until today.

4. By the time ECOSOC Resolution 2000/35 was adopted, which set the scope and functions of the “International Arrangement on Forests”, it had become common to speak of an “*International Arrangement on Forests*” (IAF), being a composite of five categories of constituencies/participants that can act collectively and/or individually, as follows:

- The Member States and countries that are members of the Forum acting individually and working together;
- The UNFF Secretariat located within the UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA) at the United Nations headquarters in New York;

- The 14 members of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests contributing to the work of the UNFF collectively and individually, including implementation of the Resolutions of the Forum;
- Other relevant IGOs and regional organizations and processes; and
- Major Groups—Business and Industry, Children and Youth, Farmers, Indigenous Peoples, Local Authorities, NGOs, the Scientific and Technological Community, Women, and Workers and Trade Unions—that take part in the Forum’s deliberations and activities.

5. The unifying factor for the IAF is *the shared desire of the above stakeholders to achieve the objectives and implement the functions of the IAF*. It was stated in the Resolutions of ECOSOC 2000/35, which stipulates objectives, functions, components and scope of the IAF (UN, 2000). As of now, the text which carries the shared ambitions is a *non-legally binding instrument*, which sets out the collective commitment to achieve sustainable forest management for all types of forests, including the particular need to halt the deforestation and forest degradation. Over time, there are two additional elements that are part of the shared ambitions for the IAF community, namely (i) the forest instrument and its Global Objectives on Forests (GOFs) and (ii) the contribution of forests to the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and their successors.

6. The independent assessment of the IAF, for which this report sets out planned implementation steps, covers the above “arrangement” and not just each of the following in isolation: the forest instrument, the role of member States in the Forum, the secretariat of the UNFF, the CPF or any other category of the overall arrangement.

7. For practical reasons, the assessment is limited by agreement to the period after the year 2000 even though clearly the foundations of the existing arrangement - including the contentious issues that hold up adoption of a legally-binding instrument on forests - were laid far earlier. The immediate origins and ambitions of the assessment are set out below.

1.1.2 Forests in the UNCED Land Cluster and the three ‘Rio Conventions’

8. While the assessment has a clear focus on the international arrangement on forests after the year 2000, it is important to also refer to the way and means that forests are integrated into other land cluster elements, including agriculture, mountains and the three most relevant multilateral legally-binding agreements (LBAs) agreed upon at the Rio Summit: the CBD, the UNFCCC and the UNCCD.

9. Agriculture is critical because it is the dominant beneficiary from land-use conversion from forests. As population and wealth grow, the demand for agricultural products (food, feed, fuel and fibre) can only accelerate, with dire consequences for forests unless proactive measures to attenuate the pressures are taken. The severity of impacts from forest loss can be most dramatic in mountain ecosystems given their fragility and the uniqueness of their ecosystems.

10. As for the three legally-binding Conventions, recognising the interfaces with forests under all of them, the UNCCD co-organized in 2004, along with the CBD Secretariat and in cooperation with the UNFCCC Secretariat, a Workshop on Forests and Forest Ecosystems: “*Promoting Synergy in the Implementation of the three Rio Conventions*”. The Rio conventions acknowledge that forest is a cross-cutting issue for all three. However, it appears that little follow-up on forests has been undertaken by the UNCCD. The UNFCCC and CBD have taken more distinctive steps appropriating parts of the forests agenda under their own agendas and programmes of work (e.g. REDD+, Aichi targets). So far, efforts among the three Rio conventions to enhance cooperation on forests, while usefully aimed at promoting synergies in their work, are unbalanced. In part, this is due to the lack of an equivalent representation by a forest body to help focus the discussion on forests within the Rio Conventions’ Joint Liaison Group. To a larger extent, it is due to the fact that only the Conference of the Parties (COP) to the CBD has taken decisions to collaborate more closely with the UNFF and its Secretariat. It is no coincidence that the only

Executive Secretary of a Rio Convention to attend the meetings of the Forum was the head of the CBD. Conversely, the Directors of the UNFF or their representatives since 2000 have regularly attended the COPs of the three Rio Conventions.

11. Some details follow on three forest-related LBA associated with the UNCED process:

- **CBD:** The CBD is concerned with forests as habitat of wild fauna and flora. This is inevitable because the majority of the world's terrestrial biodiversity is found in forests. There has been discussion at times about developing a forest protocol that would address forests in relation to *conservation and sustainable use*, the two core elements of CBD, but this has not found political favour among enough countries to catalyze negotiations in this direction. The CBD is a framework convention and therefore has no effective mechanism for implementation or enforcement. It nevertheless has considerable interest in forest biodiversity and has accordingly developed the following:
 - a. In 2001, a programme of work for forest biodiversity, approved at COP-6¹ - which is reminiscent of the outputs from IPF/IFF in its length and complexity;
 - b. In 2002, adopted decision VI/22 on forest biological diversity calling for closer collaboration with the UNFF as per the recommendations of the Accra Workshop on Forests and Biological Diversity (28-30 January) leading to an agreed upon collaborative work programme between the CBD and UNFF Secretariats;
 - c. In 2004, the 'provisional framework of goals and targets'² approved at COP-7 for the six thematic programmes of work under the Convention; and
 - d. In 2011, the parties of the CBD agreed on the so-called Aichi Biodiversity Targets 2011-2020, that include ambitious targets for the conservation, sustainable use and restoration of forests

The first and third elements –overlap with each other but are not necessarily consistent.

- **UNFCCC:** The **United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change** encompasses strategies for both mitigation of and adaptation to climate change, with forests being addressed in both. Its mitigation agenda encompasses forests as a potential source of GHG emissions but also as an important carbon sink; accordingly, the UNFCCC has developed a special instrument in forest mitigation with REDD+

However, the link between forests and climate change is not being taken fully into consideration in the current institutional context, with the result that the potential for protecting forests is neither realized for their contribution to adaptation nor as a mitigation option for the first commitment of the Kyoto Protocol and its extension to 2020. The appearance of the theme on avoiding deforestation (RED) on the agenda in COP 11 in Montreal in 2005 gave momentum to the issue of forests and forest management in the UNFCCC. COP-13 in Bali in 2007 elevated RED to REDD+, to include forest degradation, forest conservation and forest management and enhancement of sinks through planting new forests.

REDD+ has captured donor imaginations and led to the creation of the REDD+ Partnership and to the launch of a considerable number of bilateral and multilateral initiatives to promote it at the pilot level (including FCPF, UN-REDD, FIP and others). REDD+ activities are now visible in over 60 tropical countries. More than US\$ 5 billion have been invested so far in the development of REDD+ and through the Green Climate Fund it is expected that the REDD+ will influence the way how tropical forests are conserved and managed in the near future. It came as no surprise that at COP-19 in

¹ (new fn!) COP 6 Decision VI/22.

² (fn 11 in the pdf text!) COP 7 Decision VII/30, Annex II.

Warsaw in November 2013, a number of decisions approved establishment of REDD+ as a mechanism to mitigate greenhouse-gas emissions.

- **UNCCD:** The UNCCD recognizes the role of forests in preventing desertification and drought but also in attenuating their effects. Forests do not figure as prominently in the UNCCD regime as they do in the CBD or UNFCCC processes, but deforestation and forest degradation are linked to land degradation and aridification. The Convention has fostered some understanding of the role of forests in controlling desertification and droughts. It has also established a Strategic Programme on Forest Finance under its Global Mechanism.

1.2 The Origins of the Present Independent Assessment

12. The mandate to carry out an independent assessment of the IAF originated in resolution 10/2 of the 10th session of the UNFF (19-28 April 2013, Istanbul, Turkey). According to this resolution, the independent assessment of the IAF is a critical input which complements other relevant inputs to the open-ended intergovernmental ad hoc expert group on the IAF.

13. The Independent Assessment will draw lessons from the challenges faced by the current UNFF/IAF since 2000, and will build on the strengths and opportunities of the current arrangement. Based on the collection of information by a team of five consultants, one each from the UN geographic regions, the IAF independent assessment team whose work is facilitated by two Bureau-designated co-facilitators, will prepare a single comprehensive report that assesses the achievement of the current IAF and offers expert views on options for its future. This report will be finalized and presented prior to, as an input to the second meeting of the Ad hoc Expert Group on the IAF (AHEG) which will review this report as well as other inputs. Based on this review, the AHEG will submit a set of recommendations and conclusions to the UNFF at its eleventh session, on the basis of which it can choose strategic directions on the functions and institutional arrangements of the IAF for the period beyond 2015.³

14. The independent assessment of the IAF will respect the term “independent” in its name, will adopt an analytical, forward-looking approach which draws effectively on studying past performance through the review of relevant texts and documents and interchanges with a representative cross-section of IAF stakeholders. It aims to provide an evidence-based analysis of the achievements with regard to objectives, strengths and shortcomings of past and current work within the framework of the UNFF. In looking at the past, but even more at the future, it will judge the appropriateness for achievement of practical progress towards SFM of the IAF’s ambitious agenda and aspirations, institutional arrangements and considerations of sustainability.

15. The Independent Assessment focuses on the period since 2000 and can add value by making proposals which can accelerate the pace at which the IAF can help its stakeholders achieve sustainable forest management in reality. The period under consideration has built upon much material on forests and the fundamentals needed to achieve SFM collectively produced under the IPF, IFF and UNFF continuum; the Independent Assessment does not need to reproduce much of this historical material, which is already well known to the UNFF membership. It will instead be selective and offer a crisp report focused on the future and actionable options for positive impact leading to sustainable forest management.

1.3 Purpose of the Inception Report

³ Paragraph 8 of Resolution 10/2 of the tenth session and paragraph (c) of its annex:
<http://daccess-dds-ny.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N13/321/90/PDF/N1332190.pdf?OpenElement>

16. This Inception Report is a working document, produced collaboratively by the IAF independent assessment team. This team consists of two Co-Facilitators, (one each from the North and the South) appointed by the UNFF Bureau to act on its behalf to facilitate the consultants to consolidate their reports and facilitate the production of a single output for submission to the ad hoc expert group on the IAF. The Inception Report carries the consultant team's common understanding of the issues involved and outlines how the assessment will be undertaken. It is produced during the "inception" or learning phase that bridges the briefing on UNFF expectations from the TORs with the undertaking of the review itself. It thus draws from the first meeting of the team in Vienna for briefing on 22 and 23 October 2013. Being an outcome of this preparation, the Inception Report translates the TORs into a work plan, including methodological approach, for the independent assessment process.

17. These early days of Inception Report preparation offer opportunities for team members to develop a good shared understanding of the TORs (produced by the UNFF11 Bureau) and of the issues involved. The period also gives the team a chance to develop a common ownership of their collaborative tasks for the IAF Independent Assessment.

2. BACKGROUND OF THE ASSESSMENT

2.1 The Global Context Shaping the International Arrangement on Forests

2.1.1 *The Forest Resource Base*

18. Nearly one third of the Earth's land area, or 4 billion ha, is covered by forests (Table 1). Forests are well known for their age-old role of providing economic goods which enter trade and consumption and so are of social importance in generating wealth and meeting more basic needs. They are also known for their protective functions for natural resource essentials of human survival, particularly habitat for wildlife, land and water. In many locations, forests also carry cultural values that are beyond valuation in monetary terms.

19. Of late, there is additionally increasing recognition of the importance of forests in preserving biological diversity, regulating freshwater flows, supporting food security and addressing future potential energy crises through the use of wood as a renewable resource, as well as mitigating and adapting to the menace of climate change. Given the awareness of the much wider range of forest contributions than formerly perceived, there is a renewed desire to move proactively so as to avoid the threats that forest loss (deforestation) and degradation pose to the world.

20. International policy level attention to forests became most prominent since the 1980s, and there have been multiple processes attempting to formulate a global policy on forests since the Rio Summit. Despite these efforts, the global rate of deforestation over the last three decades has decreased only minimally (FAO 2010). Forest cover was lost at a rate of about 13 million ha per year between 1980 and 2010 – a rate that has remained essentially unchanged over the past 40 years⁴ (FAO 2010). Deforestation is mainly occurring in tropical and subtropical countries, but large parts of formerly untouched boreal and temperate forests have also become the target of timber exploiters in the past few years and are under increasing threat.

⁴ The global forest resource assessment concludes that deforestation has slowed down over the past ten years. Nevertheless, the data show a more or less stable trend of net deforestation between 6 and 9 million ha per year. This trend remains unchanged even with the slightly more positive figures that have been published recently.

Table 1: Forest-related characteristics based on the 4 main global biomes⁵

Country Data	Boreal	Temperate	Subtropical	Tropical	Global
Land Area ⁶ (’000 ha)	2’659’547	2’894’298	1’985’421	5’386’567	13’010’510
	20.4%	22.2%	15.3%	41.4%	100.0%
Forest Area (’000 ha)	1’179’682	671’003	342’035	1’839’303	4’033’063
	29.3%	16.6%	8.5%	45.6%	100.0%
Relative proportion of Forest	44.4%	23.2%	17.2%	34.1%	31.0%
Development of Forest Area	increasing	slightly increasing	increasing	decreasing	slightly decreasing
Change Rate	0.4%	0.2%	0.4%	-0.4%	-0.1%
Carbon in living forest biomass (Megatons)	48’890	38’171	8’563	179’535	275’207
	17.8%	13.9%	3.1%	65.2%	100.0%
Population	194’300’000	2’260’032’000	973’640’000	3’311’683’000	6’750’525’000
	2.9%	33.5%	14.4%	49.1%	100.0%
Population development	decreasing	slightly increasing	slightly increasing	strongly increasing	increasing

21. At the same time, it should be noted that planted forests have increased steadily over the past twenty years, from only 178 million ha in 1990 to some 270 million ha in 2012. Between a third and half of the industrial roundwood used globally now comes from planted forests.

2.1.2 Forests in a Global Change Perspective

22. Today, the rapid pace of key global changes⁷ supersedes all other issues that previously preoccupied mankind in matters of forest use and conservation. The unprecedented increase of the human population over the past 50 years or so and the even faster growth of human consumption will, without doubt, increase the threats that are already a reality for more than 60% of the Earth’s population: soil and forest degradation; scarcities in vital resources, such as drinking water, productive soils for food production, and energy; and loss of forest-based resources, including biological diversity and cultural heritage.

23. The full effects of deforestation have only begun to be recognised in the last 30 years. In the past it was recognized that deforestation can also cause or exacerbate natural disasters through, for example,

⁵ Blaser et al 2014: The World’s forest extension – country data and satellite-based assessment. Data based on the “State of the world’s forests 2005” (FAO 2005), the “Global Forest Resources Assessment 2010” (FAO 2010) and country-based data on FR to FAO (www.fao.org)

⁶ Antarctica is not included

⁷ The term *global change* encompasses multiple environmental and ecological changes that affect the life support systems of all people on Earth. It addresses issues such as climate change, species extinction, land use change, energy consumption, food production as well as many other transformations that have impacts on a worldwide scale. It has grown from the recognition that the most basic natural resources needed for human life are now increasingly scarce, depleted or polluted.

the loss of soil cover, loss of freshwater, and the exacerbation of flood conditions. Now it is also recognised that since forests are home to two-thirds of terrestrial biodiversity, a considerable part of the Earth's biodiversity has been lost through the the loss of forest cover. It has also now become common knowledge that the destruction of forests is a major contributor to a net growth in atmospheric greenhouse gases of about 17% from anthropogenic origins. In addition, there is evidence that deforestation significantly helps to impoverish already poor people since for them forests contribute inordinately to the supply of food, shelter, employment and health.

24. The transformation of a natural forest to some other form of land cover, including single-species tree crop plantations, represents one of the most radical and irreversible changes that can occur to a local environment. There are no guarantees of benign environmental and economic outcomes when forests disappear or are replaced by scattered trees or mono-species plantations. Yet, to date, forests have been seriously and consistently undervalued in economic, social and even ecological terms. As they industrialized, present-day advanced countries destroyed most old-growth forests in temperate climatic zones. Boreal forests are now also becoming threatened by faster overexploitation for timber, minerals (including oil and gas). Intact tropical forests, spread over more than 65 countries, are also diminishing at an accelerated rate. It is estimated that as much as two-thirds of the planet's original⁸ forest cover may already have been destroyed or seriously degraded.

25. No one can seriously suggest that all potential future deforestation can be avoided. The food, feed, fibre and fuel needs of the world's growing and increasingly prosperous population would not allow that⁹. Certain policies are in fact potentially direct drivers of forest clearing. The political goal in much of the developed world to substitute fossil fuels for transportation with biofuels is one example. It drives demand for growing export crops of plantations converted to fuel, e.g., palm oil, corn, sugar cane and others. Also, as climate warming makes areas of the boreal zone more suitable for cultivation, the temptation to cultivate crops there will grow. However, deforestation should be discouraged when: (1) it is not efficient from an economic perspective in the longer term and the widest sense; (2) it is a threat to broader environmental stability at the landscape level; (3) it leads to social inequities and conflicts, or (4) it leads to levels of biodiversity loss which unduly limit options for present and future generations. In many areas of the developed world, residual forest is in single-digit ratios of land cover. In some other regions of the world, the area of degraded forest is growing rapidly and is already comparable to that of deforested land.

26. The IAF and its supporting institutional/stakeholder arrangements being assessed here may have a window of opportunity for addressing the impacts of global change mentioned above. But that window of opportunity is rapidly closing. With the current pace of population and consumption growth, with climate change and with the impacts of key ecosystem services having probably fallen below critical thresholds, there might only be a time span of perhaps half a century to change course.

27. It is the belief of many that it is not shortages of financial resources and technological capabilities, nor a lack of clear understanding of the critical role forests play in addressing these global challenges that are hampering efforts to tackle such issues, but a shortage of commitment to immediate, adequate and sustained action. The loss of forest cover is a major part of the problem and the sustenance and expansion of forests is a prerequisite for the solution. The assessment should be challenged by the many opportunities at the local, national, regional and global levels for forests and their sustainable management to be a key element in the equation for effectively addressing and solving priority

⁸ Original here means since the mid-Holocene, some 6000 years ago.

⁹ Global human population is predicted to reach 10 billion by 2050. Most of the increase will be in urban centers of developing countries, including those cities in regions that will be greatly affected by climate change. This increasing population will need food and energy.

environmental problems such as the degradation of ecosystem services, climate change, biodiversity loss, freshwater depletion and land degradation that are tearing at the livelihoods and well-being of much of the Earth's population that depend on forests for the goods and services they provide.

2.1.3 Global Forest Governance

28. There are a number of institutionalized agreements developed over recent years that are global in character and that are considered as essential for the shaping of forest policies at the global level for the years to come. Some important ones are presented in Table 2. Besides these, there is a multitude of international instruments and initiatives that relate directly or indirectly to forests (see Box Annex 3). Several dimensions deserve highlighting:

(i) Perceptions of whether a good global governance framework is in place:

29. Regarding global forest governance, the global forest community has many parties that keep a middle ground but also others that hold two extreme positions: one group can see in place no efficient arrangement, institution, process, or initiative that effectively regulates the full range of issues associated with forests at the global level to the extent needed. The other group views the current international arrangement on forests (including the Forest Instrument) as a significant step towards good governance, given that it is comprehensive, holistic and integrated in its approach to global forests, which balances environmental, social and economic functions of forests and has sufficient convening power to bring all players to the same table, thus having potential to play a major role at the global level.

Table 2: UNFF and the major existing agreements and initiatives of relevance for global forest policy*

Name of initiative/agreement/tool	Main promoter(s) Besides UNFFS	Type and horizon	Main objective
UNFF (ECOSOC Res. 2000/35) Non-legally Binding Instrument on All Types of Forests [NLBI (2007)] ¹⁰ "Forest Instrument"	UNFF Member States, CPF Member Organizations, regional processes and organizations, major groups	Intergovernmental, To be reviewed in 2015	SFM for all types of forests Four Global Objectives on Forests of the Forest Instrument, based on outcomes of UNFF-7 (2007)
UNCED Agenda 21 including the Forest Principles and the 'Rio Conventions' (1992) and their protocols, strategies and work programmes	ECOSOC as repository of UNCED agreements and pursuer of follow-up to them; : CBD; UNCCD; UNFCCC. ¹¹	Intergovernmental "Post 2012 process"	As defined in the objectives of the 3 conventions
Other legally binding agreements with forest-related provisions	CITES, RAMSAR	International treaties with specific purposes	To protect endangered plants and animals respectively wetlands
Collaborative Partnership on Forests (CPF) and its Strategic Framework	CIFOR; FAO; ITTO; IUFRO; CBD; GEF; UNCCD; UNFF; UNFCCC;	"Ad-hoc" Multi-agency coordination arrangement (replaced	Support the work of the UNFF with technical and advisory inputs

¹⁰ The Forest Instrument takes most advantage of the conclusions of the Intergovernmental Panel on Forests (IPF, 1995-1997) the Intergovernmental Forum on Forests (IFF, 1998-2000), and the UNFF. Nevertheless, the instrument itself is the first globally agreed framework of actions and goals on all types of forests that defines SFM and provides a solid plan of action to this end.

¹¹ There are also regional conventions relevant to SFM or aspects of it which may be useful complementary frameworks for country commitment to action on SFM.

(2008)	UNDP; UNEP; ICRAF; WORLD BANK; IUCN.	the former ITFF)	
COFO (FAO)** (linked to Regional Forestry Commissions for each region)	FAO (Statutory Body, created in 1971)	Inter-governmental forum for discussion of forests	Identify emerging policy and technical issues on global forestry
ITTA, 2006**	ITTO member countries, new ITTA (3 rd agreement) entered into force in 2013	Intergovernmental between tropical timber producer countries and consumer countries	Expand the trade in tropical timber from sustainably managed and legally harvested forests
REDD+ Partnership (since 2009)	Country delegations to the UNFCCC	Country and stakeholder driven voluntary approach	Learning on REDD+; driving a common policy agenda

*The list is by no means complete. There are a number of major regional initiatives not listed here (E.g. the preparation of a LBA on forests in Europe; the 11 regional seas conventions amongst others) that are of importance and will need to be analysed in the process of the future arrangements on forests.

**COFO and ITTA, the Governing Bodies of two CPF members (FAO and ITTO) are listed here because they reunite (country)-members in regular decision meetings at global level and influence as such the global forest agenda

(ii) SFM dismemberment into niches?

30. It is undeniable that increasingly, niches are being carved out of holistic sustainable forest management to promote attention particular dimensions of it, for example (a) by the CBD in respect of the role of forests for biological diversity, (b) by the CITES and IUCN in matters of endangered species; (c) by the ITTA on issues of trade for products from one group of forest ecosystems (not all types of forests), (d) by the UNFCCC in respect of the role of forests in climate change, in particular REDD+ and forest sector NAMAs and e) by the UNCCD in respect to land use change and the interlinkages of land degradation and deforestation. These niches have become more and more important – many would perceive that more financial resources are now allocated toward achievement of their narrower goals than to achievement of overall SFM.

(iii) Funding priorities diverting attention from SFM to niches?

31. Of concern should be the reality that even if not formally acknowledged, funding availability distorts attention to the full SFM agenda. Particularly in recent years, global preoccupation with climate change appears to have shifted disproportionate shares of donor funding into REDD+ processes, dedicated nearly exclusively to tropical forests. Given that donors fund a significant share of developing country programmes as well as those of multilateral agencies (including members of the CPF), we face a situation of funding from all directions focusing on REDD+ and little attention to other dimensions of SFM, some of which need continuity of attention to succeed.

32. In the case of humid tropical countries with timber production potential, while the ITTA and its executive institution (ITTO) were set up to promote trade from sustainably managed forests, programmes that attract funding relatively easily are not about trade “promotion” but about combating illegality and promoting certification of traded products, elements that are increasingly reflected in stringent timber-product procurement policies in major markets. These initiatives multiply operational transactions and so add costs on the production side, but yet are not sufficiently counterbalanced by adequate price premiums for compliance with standards that satisfy legality of sources, traceability along chain of custody and accuracy from the viewpoint of environmental soundness of management. The ITTO document CEM-

CFI(XLVIII)/5¹² communicates especially for Europe and the United States market contraction, a chilling effect on trade and reduced returns from tropical timber exports for IITO producer countries as a result of these developments.

Link of UNFF/IAF to other Key Organisations

33. At the global policy level, UNFF is the only global intergovernmental policy body that offers a comprehensive and holistic approach to sustainable management of *all types of forests, and trees outside of forests*. Established in 2000, it is a unique UN body hosted under ECOSOC that has universal membership of 197 countries. No other forest-related organization or process has this unique comprehensiveness of membership and mandate, which is open also to non-governmental parties and has a holistic mandate that covers all three pillars of sustainable management of all types of forests and all issues related to them. One particular function of UNFF/IAF is to enhance cooperation as well as to contribute to coherence among them (2000/35- OP2 c).

34. The Independent Assessment team will look at the UNFF/IAF linkages with other institutions while recognising the unique universality and comprehensiveness in the nature, scope and mandates of UNFF relative to other forest related organizations. The multiplicity of organisations with claims of competence on forests is large and immediately poses questions of harmony in action, convergence and coordination (Table 2; Box 1). Not only do all the institutions have separate governing body oversight and mandates but they are also funded from sources that are not necessarily designed for complementarity, resulting in competition among the international institutions (even in the very countries they exist to serve) that may be more commonplace than can be admitted.

35. Given their special status as support team members for the UNFF/IAF so far, the Independent Assessment team will pay particular attention to organisations within the CPF. They are voluntary members of a collective group whose members retain their individual identities but have chosen to work together in support of the UNFF as a policy forum. The Independent Assessment team is aware that the cooperation and coordination does not extend to substantive interventions in member-country development programmes.

Box 1: Key International Organisations and Initiatives Relating to Forests

In complement to the UNFF, an impressive number of international convention bodies, other international and regional entities, UN specialized agencies, CGIAR programmes and international NGOs also deal with and debate forest-related issues as part of their broader international mandates. They all interact in some respect with the UNFF.

Annex 2 presents an attempt to list relevant organizations that have a global or regional mandate and have a proven track record to leverage an international forest-related agenda and/or to influence national governments in their decision-making on forests. The total number of organizations listed is 92, classified under the following six categories:

- Multilateral Agencies with focus or working areas on forests (18 organizations listed)
- Regional Initiatives with links to forestry (13 initiatives listed, adding the CPF as a global initiative brings the total to 14 formal initiatives)
- Research/Specialist Institutions with a focus on forestry (16 organizations listed)
- Thematic Initiatives on forests (19 thematic initiatives)
- Global/Regional Environmental NGOs/Civil Society Organization with a focus on forests (20 organizations)
- Private Sector Associations working on international forestry issues (6 Organizations)

¹² Martin, RM and B. H. Ghazali (2013): Draft Report on analysis of the economic impact of governmental procurement policies on tropical timber markets. Document CEM-CFI(XLVIII)/5, IITC Committee on Economics, Statistics and Markets. 31 October 2013.

Besides the institutions listed in Annex 2, a considerable number of donor countries have dedicated bilateral cooperation programmes in forestry that deal with both policy (normative work) and technical work.

This diversity of actors carries the risk of poor coordination and visibility, which can constrain effective political and financial mobilisation. Although many efforts have been made to enhance coordination of the international community [CPF, the International Year of Forests, International Day of Forests, the organisation since 2008 by CIFOR of the annual Forest Day (replaced in 2013 by the “landscape day”)], the international community effort to achieve SFM and to tackle deforestation still lacks clear orientation, leadership and effective coordination. To the load of broad frameworks and programmes other multi-stakeholder processes and initiatives can be added, such as National Forest Programmes renamed today to Forest and Farm Facility, FLEG, FLEGT-VPAs, and REDD+.

2.2 Overview of UNFF’s mandate

2.2.1 *Principal Functions of the Forum*

36. There are a number of intergovernmental agreements/resolutions developed over recent years on forests that are global in character. These include ECOSOC resolutions 2000/35 and 2006/49 (ECOSOC, 2000 and 2006) which lay out the framework of the international arrangement on forests through establishing UNFF, with specific functions and stakeholders.

37. The Independent Assessment team will prepare itself to comment on structures for the future IAF by first studying the mandated functions of the UNFF/IAF. These are principally of a “forum nature” but are also associated with facilitation and exhortation/motivation. The team’s understanding of the functioning of the IAF is as follows:

The key stakeholders are the Forum member state governments that are expected to take decisions to “promote the implementation of internationally agreed actions on forests, at the national, regional and global levels, and to provide a coherent transparent and participatory global framework for policy implementation, coordination and development...through the UNFF process” (ECOSOC, 2000). The decisions of the Forum are also considered “soft moral undertakings” for governments to implement. There is no system of monitoring, accountability, and verification or compliance mechanism in place.

All other stakeholders actively involved in the IAF, such as CPF member organisations, regional organizations and major groups), are expected to support the work of the Forum. The UNFFS carries the main weight of supporting and following up the implementation of the decisions of the Forum, in addition to its other responsibilities as a member and the secretariat of the CPF, as well as a part of the broader UN Secretariat with different inter-departmental responsibilities. Due to the nature of the CPF which is a voluntary network of the secretariats of various forest-related organizations, the scope of their authority, as well as the limited resources, CPF members have no obligation to meet the expectations of the Forum and only support and implement the decisions of the Forum to the extent that their internal mandates to their own governing bodies permit. This is a clear distinction. The UNFF may request an IGO (including a member of the CPF) to support a certain action, but it is not an instruction. CPF members need to get the backing (and funding?) of their respective governing bodies to support the recommendations of the Forum. In principle, the CPF does not take actions to support the work of the UNFF; this can only be assigned in each case by the Forum itself in a form of an invitation to the CPF member organizations for voluntary engagement.

38. The Independent Assessment will seek views from a balanced cross-section of the UNFF constituency/stakeholders regarding which functions have been delivered best, which worst. Also, some

insights can be sought regarding whether best performance has coincided with the most important ambitions for achieving SFM on the ground.

39. According to the above-mentioned ECOSOC resolutions, the Forum has 10 principal functions listed below, which must be part of what the Independent Assessment team assesses (Table 3 being part of the structuring to be used during the assessment) for performance, effectiveness/efficiency, impact and sustainability of results. Under these functions, there is also room to look at whether the UNFF/IAF adequately builds on an inter-sectoral perspective where this would add value and the degree of inclusiveness in engaging all the stakeholders of the UNFF/IAF.

40. Of the ten functions, seven principal functions (1-7 beneath) defined in ECOSOC Resolution 2000/35 and three additional principal functions (8-10 beneath), defined in ECOSOC Resolution 2006/49, as follows¹³:

- (1) To promote the sustainable management of all types of forests and to strengthen long-term political commitment;
- (2) To promote the implementation of internationally agreed actions on forests at the national, regional and global levels;
- (3) To provide a coherent, transparent and participatory global framework for policy implementation, coordination and development;
- (4) To provide a forum for continued policy development among Governments, international organizations and other interested parties to foster a common understanding on sustainable forest management and to address forest-related issues and emerging areas of priority concern in a holistic, comprehensive and integrated manner;
- (5) To enhance cooperation as well as policy and programme coordination on forest-related issues among relevant international and regional organizations, institutions and instruments, as well as to contribute to synergies among them, including coordination among donors;
- (6) To foster international cooperation, including North-South and public-private partnerships, as well as cross-sectoral cooperation at the national, regional and global levels;
- (7) To monitor and assess progress at the national, regional and global levels through reporting by Governments, as well as by international and regional organizations, institutions and instruments, and on this basis consider future actions needed.
- (8) To enhance the contribution of forests to the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the MDGs, in particular with respect to poverty eradication and environmental sustainability; and to the fulfilment of the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, bearing in mind the Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development;
- (9) To encourage and assist countries to maintain and improve their forest resources with a view to enhancing the benefits of forests to meet present and future needs, in particular the needs of indigenous peoples and local communities whose livelihoods depend on forests;
- (10) To strengthen interaction with relevant regional and sub-regional forest related mechanisms, institutions and instruments, organizations and processes, to facilitate enhanced cooperation and effective implementation of sustainable forest management.

¹³ The Independent Assessment Team will, as needed, comment on the 10 principal functions themselves and, where useful, make recommendations.

Table 3: An attempt to characterize the outcomes of the 10 principal functions of the UNFF¹⁴

UNFF Function (paraphrased)	Lead Constituency	Lead Body	Top achievements since 2000	Key challenges: focus on policy/political issues
1. To promote SFM for all types of forests / to strengthen political commitment	UNFF member countries	UNFFS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Forest Instrument - Country reporting on SFM - Analysis of key SFM issues 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Inadequate and unpredictable financing of the Forest Instrument
2. To promote implementation of agreed actions on forests at all levels	UNFF member countries & country stakeholders	Member countries	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Four global objectives - NLBI - Development of REDD+? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Translation of actions into concrete policies and implementation arrangements in the countries
3. To provide coherent, transparent and participatory global framework for policy implementation, coordination and development	UNFF member countries	UNFFS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - UNFF Meetings - CLIs, RLIs, OLIs - UNFFS presence in UNFCCC, CBD, CCD 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Insufficient dialog and coordination with other bodies dealing with global forest policies, e.g. REDD+ partnership, FLEGT process,
4. To serve as forum for continued policy development among Governments & other interested parties for common understanding on SFM and to address issues & priority concerns ...	UNFF Meetings, intersessional meetings; CLIs	UNFF, CPF, partners	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Number of intersessional meetings focusing on technical, social and economic issues to implement SFM - Adoption of SFM policy decisions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Lack of guidance documents and common statements on SFM and its implementation - Insufficient links to the SFM discussions in Non-Governmental For a, incl. civil society and private sector (e.g. validation of certification, FLEG)
5. For synergy, to enhance cooperation and policy /program coordination on forest-related issues among international and regional organizations, donors, institutions and instruments	UNFF Secretariat	UNFFS, CPF	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Existence and functioning of the CPF as a voluntary partnership - Increasing links with regional initiatives and bodies (e.g. AFF) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Individual CPF members have their own ambitions and goals - Unclear link between UNFF and regional policy processes - No evident donor coordination (4 global goals)
6. To foster international cooperation, including North-South & public-private, as well as cross-sectoral at all levels	UNFFS, CPF	Member States CPF IGOs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Facilitative process - Global Objective 4 - Sourcebook - Development of options to finance SFM 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - No clear evidence on how this goal can be monitored - No evidence of major private sector involvement in global forest policy
7. Monitor and assess progress at all levels through reporting by	UNFF member countries	UNFFS FAO,	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Joint declaration between FAO, ITTO, Forest Europe and 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Better linking UNFF reporting to existing forest reporting

¹⁴ It is understood that the UNFF Secretariat in performing all these functions as per mandate, sometimes as a lead, sometimes in supportive function.

governments, international and regional organizations, institutions and instruments		ITTO, Regional C&I	Montreal Process to streamline global forest reporting and strengthening collaboration among international C&I proc.	mechanisms - Role of UNFFS?
8. To enhance the contribution of forests to the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the MDGs	UNFF member countries	UNFFS/ DESA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Integration of UNFFS in DESA - Role of UNFFS in the current process of defining the SFM and the role of forests - Role of CPF members in the formulation of SDGs in respect to forests 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Divergence of interests in between CPF members on the role of forests in the SDGs - No leadership in the forest community to agree on a common approach in integrating forests in the SDGs
9. To encourage and assist countries to maintain & improve forest resources & their benefits, especially for indigenous and local people whose livelihoods depend on them	UNFF Member States CPF members	UNFFS, CPF m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - UNFFS' role in organising the Year of the Forests and the Day of the Forest - Visibility of UNFF in the global arena (e.g. Forest Days in UNFCCC COPs) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - No tangible actions can be recognized through the collaboration with Major Groups
10. Facilitate cooperation and effective implementation of SFM by strengthening interaction with relevant regional and sub-regional forest related mechanisms, institutions & instruments, organizations & processes.	UNFF member countries and their specific involvement in regional initiatives	Member countries and respective regional organisations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Africa: AFF as knowledge broker between forest stakeholders and countries and preparation of negotiators in UNFF and other bodies - UNECE/FAO and Forest Europe to broker knowledge and policies in ECE region - ASEAN Senior Officials Meeting as coordination unit in 10 ASEAN states 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Lack of formal and functional links between UNFF and regional processes

2.2.2 Institutional Set-Up of the IAF and its Mandate

41. By now, it is common to speak of an “*International Arrangement on Forests*” (IAF), being a composite of five categories of constituencies/participants (see Box 2). The unifying factor for IAF is the achievement of the objectives and implementation of the functions of the IAF, including the non-legally-binding instrument on all types of forests and achievement of the global objectives on forests, and the future consideration of a full range of options, including a legally binding instrument on all types of forests, strengthening the current arrangement, continuation of the current arrangement and other options.

Box 2: Composition of the International Arrangement on Forests (IAF)

The core objective of IAF is to “promote the management, conservation and sustainable development of all types of forests and to strengthen long-term political commitment to this end” (ECOSOC Resolution 2000/35). The unifying function of the IAF is to pursue consensus through policy dialogue and to promote action on the forests agenda at all levels, with a coherent global mantle. It also ensures the implementation of the Forest Instrument and its four Global Objectives on Forests and the contribution of forests to the IADG/Millennium Development Goals. The actors /stakeholders of the IAF who constitute the UNFF’s “membership” consist of:

- The Forum which is the UNFF itself, as the main convening and governing mechanism of the IAF. The Forum is neither an organization nor a convention. It does not have the same resources that an organization or a convention has. The Forum is a unique subsidiary body of ECOSOC, operating under the rules and procedures of functional commissions of ECOSOC and has the universal membership (197 Member States of the UN, and State Members of the Specialized Agencies);
- The Member States of the Forum acting individually or working together to decide on the priority areas for the work of the Forum and to implement the decisions of the Forum and to make decisions .
- The UNFF Secretariat, acting as the Secretariat of the Forum, , attached to DESA in New York, as a member of the CPF, as the Secretariat of the CPF, and as an integral part of the UN Secretariat and inter-departmental network of the UN system ;
- The 14 members of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests contributing to the work of the UNFF collectively and individually, including implementation of the Resolutions of the Forum;
- Other relevant IGOs.
- Regional organizations and processes; and
- Major Groups which take part in the Forum’s sessions.

42. Set out below is a series of bullet points outlining institutional elements that are relevant in the assessment:

(i) In general terms

- Key provisions for sustainable forest management at all levels with vigilance to ensuring attention goes to all types of forests;
- Main areas of controversy that have led to dilution of its “powers”;
- Lack of link to assured funding for balanced SFM that the NLBI was aimed at and, instead, reliance on funds that are more easily available for some aspects of forests and less or none for others;
- Trends in attention to (a) UNFF issues, some of which are an evolution on the original IPF issues¹⁵: international fora for SFM policy dialogue and agreement on its assessment; prominence of sector; forests assessment in multi-sectoral context; governance and funding both international and national; forest products trade from all types of forests; technology and capacity building; and to (b) fast-emerging concerns apparently overshadowing some original priorities, e.g. climate change and FLEG.
- Impacts of the UNFF decisions on other international organizations and conventions
- Forests in the post 2015 development agenda, , SDGs and their interconnections with the post-2015 IAF.

(ii) UNFF Member States

- Distinction of the UNFF having universal governmental membership, unlike other ECOSOC subsidiaries: some reasons and the strengths /weaknesses this may imply;
- Diversity of governments in importance of forests in their agendas;

¹⁵ E/CN.17/1995/3 paras 100-106 for fuller coverage.

- Some contrasts, with some highly deforested country governments being most passionate about forests and more richly endowed less so: concerns about loss of sovereignty if international regime made too strong;
- Assessment on how whether and how commitments matter to and in countries and how countries directly and indirectly working to achieve the 4 global objectives on forests, and implement the forest instrument and other relevant UNFF decisions;
- Inconsistencies in individual governments land policies so that the commitment to the sustainable management of forests is not supported by same governments policies, allowing rapid deforestation or degradation
- Contrasts/asymmetries in financial power and implementation capacity for SFM, also in relation to the climatic zone - dependence of some on external support may make them focus not on what they need but what those offering finances prioritise within the SFM agenda;
- External packaging of assistance and challenges of concentration/coordination by governments over actions directly by them, by partners, by major groups (including private sector) in their countries;
- Global vs. local vs. regional alliances: cases of effective solidarity / fault lines in collective effort.

(iii) UNFF Secretariat

- Different roles and responsibilities of the UNFFS as i) the Secretariat of the Forum, ii) as a member of the CPF, iii) as the secretariat of the CPF, and iv) as an integral part of the inter-departmental network within the UN Secretariat.
- Role in facilitating implementation of the functions of the IAF, (ECOSOC resolution 2000/35, 2006/49), decisions of the Forum, the Forest Instrument and its 4 GOFs, as well as multi-year programme of work of the Forum.
- Capacity issues: budget and staffing
- The pros and cons of having the work of the UNFFS depend heavily on XB funds and ad hoc CPF secondments and to review the actual trend in these areas, as well as their impacts on the work of the Secretariat (e.g. dependency on voluntary funds may distort the balance among issues the secretariat acts upon relative to the priorities identified by the Forum. The challenge for the the Secretariat may well be of facing an need for resources to implement its programme of work but if these funds cover what are not key priority issues, how to explain to the Forum reasons for divergence).
- Institutional location, its pluses and minuses for outreach capacity to all stakeholders (e.g. how the location of the Forum has made it possible for the Forum and its Secretariat to promote and advocate stronger integration of forests in major global policy processes (e.g. in the Sustainable Development Summits, in the MDGs Summits, in the SDG and post 2015 processes, in the work of the Rio Conventions and other members of the CPF). Yet some parties may have concerns at perceived inordinate influence of diplomatic community over sectoral officials from the capitals).

(iv) The CPF

- Functioning of CPF as a voluntary network
- Shared desires but differing capacities and mandates: the UNFF vs. UN Conventions / the technical CPF members vs. the funding agencies;
- Partnership yet competition – especially for resources;
- Dependence on a few donors for support (with often selected priorities) : challenges of coordination and fault lines in solidarity – failure of CPF programmes convergence at country level;
- Imbalance in attention to various aspects of SFM – partly resulting from reliance on voluntary donor funds which come with selected priorities;
- Contrasts in development philosophies: e.g. ongoing differences on “forests” vs. “landscapes” – can be temporary or long-lasting

- Role of FAO¹⁶: or can effect coordination/orchestration of actions?
- Summary of initiatives and that CPF members combined are conducting outside UNFF (see REDD+, FLEGT/VPAs)
- Expressed ambitions for the future (and enlarged CPF?)
- Lack of allocated resources to support the CPF related works in CPF individual organizations and options for: i) their respective governing bodies to allocate specific resources to the CPF related work or ii) the Members of the Forum establish a CPF Trust Fund to fund the joint activities of the CPF in support of the work of the Forum
 - Lack of equitable burden sharing and sense of ownership among CPF members, workload is only on a few but the credit to all
 - Marrying the membership in the CPF with the firm commitment of the respective organizations to take the work seriously, attend meetings of the CPF, implement joint activities of the CPF
 - High (and to some extent false) expectations from the CPF on the part of some countries, and the need to diagnose the problems and let countries to know these problems and address them
- Distributing more effectively the support of the CPF to the programme of work of the UNFF (who takes responsibility, workload, who just credits?)
- Additional workload for the UNFFS as the result of its dual role acting as a member of the CPF, and as the secretariat of the CPF, and the insufficient of available resources that
- Options for membership of the CPF, its rules of procedure including options for rotating its chairmanship, using the experience of other interagency networks such as UN-Energy
- Decision of UNFF11 providing the CPF with 5 to 6 clear policy guidance/principles on: its membership (no silent or inactive member); making its chairmanship rotating; identifying the key areas for a CPF multi-year programme of work; establishing a CPF Trust Fund; providing guidance on the division of work in light of the respective competencies of its members; taking necessary actions to provide support to the CPF as an interagency mechanism with its own secretariat, website, etc.

(v) Regional organisations

- UNFF and the FI and its implementation at regional level:
 - Forest Europe; European Forestry Convention
 - Amazon Treaty,
 - Central American Commission on Environment and Development (CCAD for the acronym in Spanish),
 - Congo Basin Partnership,
 - AFF,
 - ASEAN/ASOF/ASFN
 - Three basin approach
 - Collaboration of UNFF and the thematic group of countries (LFCCs, SIDS, LDCs...)' lessons-learned
- Global framework and regional implementation

(vi) Major Groups and Other Interest Groups

- In all sectors under UNCED, vocal interest groups, including civil society, indigenous people and environmental advocacy fora, among others, have had a major imprint on international priorities,

¹⁶ There are no terms of reference or rules of procedure that assign CPF coordination functions to FAO. This is a matter that the IAF should keep bearing in mind.

especially regarding attention to the environment, social inclusion and effective gender balance: Draw attention to major initiatives that have benefited from this especially on environmental and peoples' participation perspectives directly in forestry (biodiversity, climate change, illegality and certification, etc.), as well as other relevant initiatives;

- Tradition of funding for attendance of UNFF events
- Participation of private sector major group

2.2.3 *The Forest Instrument - The Non-legally Binding Instrument on All Types of Forests (NLBI)*

43. In 2006, the United Nations Forum on Forests (UNFF) agreed on and later adopted the Non-legally Binding Instrument on All Types of Forests (NLBI) (Forest Instrument).¹⁷ Subsequently the Forest Instrument was adopted by the UN General Assembly in December 2007,¹⁸ building upon the approximately 500 IPF/IFF 'proposals for action' and operative paragraphs of UNFF resolutions prior to UNFF 7. The Forest Instrument establishes objectives and spells out several actions to promote SFM at the international, regional and national levels. The Forest Instrument also provides the only global intergovernmental home for the agreed meaning of the term "SFM".

44. Together with the UNFF multi-year programme of work (MYPoW), the Forest Instrument specifies necessary actions for implementation of SFM including its own implementation and achievement of its **four global objectives**:

- (i) Reverse the loss of forest cover;
- (ii) Enhance forest-based economic, social and environmental benefits;
- (iii) 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; and
- (iv) Reverse the decline of official development assistance for SFM. Linked to the NLBI is a Multi-year Programme of Work (MYPOW) that sets the working agenda of the UNFF process between 2008 and 2015.

It is important to note that Member States agreed to work globally, regionally and nationally to achieve progress towards the achievement of these objectives by 2015. There is therefore a need to consider options for the future of the global objectives. This issue is related to how best to integrate specific goals and targets on forests within the SDGs and post-2015 development agenda.

45. While some perceive that the Forest Instrument has received only scant attention possibly due to its non-legally binding nature", many, including key international organizations have recognized its importance, e.g. the CBD and the GEF, among others.

46. The adoption of the Forest Instrument by the UN General Assembly was recognized by the CBD COP at its ninth session in May 2008, and through paragraph 1(i) of Decision IX/5 urged Parties to "Increase cross-sectoral cooperation and initiatives at all levels, to help carry out a coordinated implementation of both the programme of work on forest biodiversity under the Convention on Biological Diversity, and the decisions set by the UNFF, including the non-legally binding instrument on all types of forests, for the achievement of the 2010 target and the four Global Objectives on Forests, with the involvement of indigenous and local communities and other relevant stakeholders, including the private

¹⁷ ECOSOC Resolution 2007/40. 'Non-legally binding instrument on all types of forests' (E/2007/INF/2/Add.2), 17 Oct 2007.

¹⁸ A/RES/62/98 (at <http://daccessdds.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N07/469/65/PDF/N0746965.pdf?OpenElement>).

sector for coordinated implementation of the CBD and the forest instrument”. Furthermore, paragraph 3(d) requested the Executive Secretary of the CBD to “Explore, together with the Director of the Secretariat of the United Nations Forum on Forests, possibilities for developing a work plan with targeted joint activities between the secretariats of the Convention on Biological Diversity and the United Nations Forum on Forests by identifying commonalities and complementarities of the respective work programmes and submit the results for the consideration of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice”.

47. While CBD has prominently recognized the NLBI, the UNFCCC – while fully endorsing the first global objective on forests – did not officially endorse the NLBI as a relevant process to its purposes.

48. In developing its incentive programme on Sustainable Forest Management/REDD+, the GEF fully supports the definition of SFM contained in the fifth *chapeau* paragraph of the forest instrument: “Sustainable forest management as a dynamic and evolving concept aims to maintain and enhance the economic, social and environmental value of all types of forests, for the benefit of present and future generations.” According to the *GEF Incentive Mechanism on Forests: A New REDD+ Multilateral Finance Program* (2010), the creation by the GEF Council of the SFM/REDD+ program, with a dedicated funding envelope of \$250 million from the GEF-5 replenishment, was in part a response to the adoption of the NLBI. The GEF-5 strategy is “working with and supporting the NLBI framework on all types of forests of the UNFF, which calls for international cooperation and national action to reduce deforestation, prevent forest degradation, promote sustainable livelihoods and reduce poverty for all forest-dependent peoples”,¹⁹ although the GEF is not a financial mechanism of the forest instrument.

49. The perception that the NLBI has not received adequate attention is also grounded in the fact that it lacks a financial mechanism to directly catalyse SFM actions in developing countries where they are most needed. Indeed, until today, the international community was unable to negotiate a viable financial instrument for financing SFM in spite of nearly 20 years of negotiations. In contrast to this obvious failure to make available adequate financing for SFM, REDD+ has been developed as a financial instrument within less than 5 years and is considered today as the most promising instrument to finance forest conservation and development in developing countries. Important to mention here is the role of GEF. While the COPs of the CBD, UNFCCC, UNCCD and the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs) can provide **direct** guidance to the GEF, as their financial mechanism, on the funding of activities in support of their conventions and respective programs of work at the national, regional and global levels, the UNFF does not have that possibility.

As the GEF is not considered a financial mechanism of the Forests Instrument, the Instrument/UNFF process cannot directly guide the GEF in SFM investments. In spite of this, the GEF has increasingly paid more attention to the invitations and guidance provided by the Forum on the issues related to the SFM. . It is important to note that being a legally binding instrument or a convention is not a prerequisite for the GEF to be a financial mechanism of a given instrument. In fact, there are conventions and legally-binding protocols with adequate resources that have gone nowhere such as the Kyoto Protocol which was adopted and entered into force but was basically never implemented. In addition, there are conventions and protocols which have failed to secure adequate financial mechanisms and thus have gone nowhere; there are also non-legally binding agreements with strong financial mechanisms that are prospering.²⁰

¹⁹ GEF Secretariat, GEF-5 Programming Document (GEF/R.5/19/Rev.1) (September 21, 2009), p. 61.

²⁰ Well outside forests, it may be observed that food aid carries no legally-binding obligations and yet needs are often fully or largely met in response to non-binding appeals.

2.3 Resourcing UNFF

50. It is important to note and give separate consideration to (i) funding for action in SFM and (ii) the resourcing UNFF as a policy body with its own processes. While the scope of the first element certainly goes much beyond the work of UNFF and engages numerous actors, the second element directly impacting the degree of effectiveness of the work of UNFF, its processes and ultimately, its functions.

2.3.1 Funding for Action in SFM

51. The acceleration of action to achieve SFM is the end goal. Therefore, adequate *resourcing (i.e. funding) SFM is essential, to the extent that it also flows to where it is needed on the ground.* How to achieve this and attain better balance in funding attention needs to be addressed: (a) for all types of forests and (b) for all dimensions of SFM.

52. The issue of financing is one of the most operationally difficult and politically sensitive topics that since UNCED 1992 and throughout the subsequent deliberations on forests in IPF, IFF and in the current UNFF have challenged the membership. Various expert meetings, AHEGs, CLIs and UNFF sessions have been organized about the topic (see Box 2). Overall, the conclusion is that financing forests will need resources from all sources and at all levels; public domestic and international funding as well as for-profit and not-for-profit private sources. Forest financing cannot be resolved by relying on one source only. Often public (inter)national funding is seen as frontier funding for high-risk investments or a funding source for global public goods. At the same time it is recognized that in order to scale up sustainable forest management, private financing will have to play a vital role. But this needs an enabling environment created by public sector action domestically and internationally. The most concrete actions and suggestions on scaling up financing for forests are presented in the recent study carried out by the Advisory Group on Finance of the CPF in its 2012 study.

53. The Independent Assessment team will need to look particularly at this issue which is considered by many as the main stumbling block for reaching the overall goal of the IAF, taking into account the findings in the AGF 2012 study, the conclusions of UNFF10 on this matter and the results of various forest financing workshops carried out under the Facilitative Process. Given the importance in many parts of the world of private funding for forest activities (both positive and otherwise), this source of financing must be an important element to look at.

Box 3: Sundry Sources of Information on Funding

The team cannot fill out the table initially proposed, which would have attempted to show progressive change of funding before and after the IPF/IFF/UNFF processes. The Banks and Bilateral funding agencies do not keep this information and to get it for individual countries would be fraught with difficulties, not least problems of comparability. But team should try hard to get some figures together and to interpret them with a lot of caution; such information could be presented as a table: showing estimates of global resources on disposal for SFM (figures covering the period 2000-2013) making a distinction between SFM/production forestry (plantations); forest biodiversity; forests and climate change; others. Some information sources:

IPF and IFF with CLI's in (i) Pretoria, South Africa on Financing Mechanisms and sources of finance for sustainable forestry, in June 1996; (ii) Croydon, UK, Workshop on financing SFM, in October 1999; (iii) UNFF: Oslo, Norway in January 2001, International Workshop of experts on financing SFM; (iv) AHEG in Geneva in December 2003 on finance and transfer of environmentally sound technologies; (v) CLI in San José, Costa Rica, April 2005 on innovative financial mechanisms: searching for viable alternatives to secure basis for the financial sustainability of forests.

AHEG Vienna, November 2008: to develop proposals for the development of a voluntary global financial mechanism/portfolio approach/forest financing framework and AHEG-1 in Nairobi, September 2012, simply called Open-ended Intergovernmental Ad Hoc Expert Group on Forest Financing; and

AHEG-2 Vienna, January 2013, also on forest financing

The UNFF's 2012 AGF study (AGF, 2012)

Databank REDD+ Partnership on financing REDD+ with data up to mid of 2013.

There is some valid information about overall funding for SFM in the 2012 AGF study on forest financing. This study addressed forest financing flows related to climate change, biodiversity, desertification, etc. in Chapter 2, which begins on page 40 of the study. We also address gaps in Chapter 3, beginning on page 77. Specifically:

- GEF and WB financing for biodiversity (pp. 42-44)
- Climate change financing (GEF, Adaptation Fund, CDM, REDD+, private markets, etc.) (pp. 44-60)
- Desertification (pp. 63-64)

The AGF also includes the following tables on this type of financing:

- CDM projects by scope (p. 46)
- CDM A/R investments (p. 47)
- Donor deposits to UN-REDD (p. 50)
- Financing of Multilateral, Intern., Regional and Bilateral Country Programmes for REDD+ from 2008 (p. 51)
- REDD+ Estimated Funding Provision 2008-2012 (p. 83)
- VRD REDD+ funding declared and recipients (pp. 84-85)

2.3.2 Resourcing of UNFF Secretariat for Facilitating Dialogue

54. The IAF will also look at whether the forum/facilitation roles of the UNFF especially for the secretariat are adequately funded to function effectively. To this end, the assessment team will also (see proposed Table 4 series) look at the core secretariat arrangements. The scope could be (over time):

- Regular programme/core funding of the UN for servicing the UNFF, and its sufficiency
- UNFFS resources in comparison to the Rio Convention secretariats, DESA divisions...
- UNFF Trust Fund (donor funded) and the impact of earmarked versus unearmarked contribution on the work of the Secretariat
- CPF secondment and XB resources to the UNFFS, the trend, sustainability, reliability and predictability
- Other funding (not directly managed by UNFF) e.g. through direct support by donors for intersessional work (e.g. expert panels, CLIs, etc)
- Funding of the CPF work in support of the Forum including funding CPF activities, funding and seconding staff to the UNFF secretariat, as well as CPF members funding for servicing CPF, and the UNFF

Box 4 describes some additional dimensions of resourcing the UNFF Secretariat that the Independent Assessment team will try to get information on.

55. Some of the funding for UNFF activities comes as financing “in kind” whereby member governments or international organisations sponsor meetings (Country Led Initiatives (CLIs)). If it proves difficult to trace the actual outlays, a rough and ready estimate could be to assume an average cost for each event and multiply by the total number. The events could also be categorised by size and each to have a standard budget estimate. This would allow filling in of some tables (sample being [Table 5](#)). Apparently an average cost of US\$ 300,000 per CLI has been discussed in Rovaniemi by team member Blaser.

Box 4: Resourcing the UNFF Secretariat

The information collected should allow the team to find out what has been the funding for the Secretariat since its inception, what have been the changes? whether the resources allocated to the UNFF Secretariat has been sufficient, stable, predictable and sustainable to allow it to perform its four distinct responsibilities, and whether the UNFFS has the core administrative and human resources standards and requirements, in comparison with e.g. other divisions in DESA,²¹ Rio Conventions. It can then comment on the trend in the funding, weighting of resourcing by theme etc and overall funding stability.....

The team will in no way imply equivalence or between the UNFF secretariat and offices for Convention Secretariats; nevertheless it believes that it will also be useful to get indicative figures for selected other secretariats, such as for the three Rio conventions. Resources include both budgetary and human resources. The Independent Assessment team will therefore need data which allows some comparison of both, budgets and numbers of staff in the UNFF secretariat, with those of the three Rio Conventions. It is understood, however, that the three Rio Conventions have both (a) trust funds for financing the operations of their respective conventions (meetings and secretariats) that are based on UN contribution formulas and (b) financial mechanisms (GEF Focal Area Strategies) for supporting Parties to these conventions in implementing actions on the ground in fulfilment of their convention obligations.

Since the Forest Instrument is voluntary, there is no obligatory trust fund for financing UNFF meetings and the secretariat. Although the Forest Instrument has universal membership, only a few bilateral donors contribute to the UNFF Trust Fund. While the GEF is the financial mechanism of the three Rio Conventions, it is not for the UNFF, although the UNFF and the Forest Instrument have been instrumental in the creation of the GEF incentive programme on SFM/REDD+. UNFF funding is provided by the United Nations Regular Budget and is, therefore, limited. The team will comment on whether under such circumstances it is not already clear from the onset that not all UNFF resource needs can be met through RB. The IAF Team will comment on and propose actions related to allocation of RB resources (both budgetary and human resources) to the UNFFS.

Facilitation vs. Action Funding: The team will also have attempted funding flows estimation for action on the ground. Therefore, a similar effort for investment flows for action under the conventions would be useful. For the UNFF Secretariat, the action/facilitation funding streams ratio will be interesting; they would be equally interesting for the conventions.

Table 4: UNFF Secretariat RB: 2002-2015 (in US\$ thousands)

Biennium	1. Regular Programme		2. XB Funding (Trust Fund)		Total
	<i>amounts in US\$</i>	<i>in %</i>	<i>amounts in US\$</i>	<i>in %</i>	<i>US\$</i>
2002-2003	1,564.7	53.6%	1,352.8	46.4%	2,917.5
2004-2005	2,420.8	44.5%	3,025.0	55.5%	5,445.8
2006-2007	2,579.4	42.0%	3,560.8	58.0%	6,140.2
2008-2009	3,105.5	51.4%	2,933.6	48.6%	6,039.1
2010-2011	3,340.6	56.1%	2,614.0	43.9%	5,954.6
2012-2013	3,445.0	47.2%	3,857.4	52.8%	7,302.4
2014-2015	3,348.9	48.7%	3,531.0	51.3%	6,879.9
All biennia (02-15)	19,804.9	48.7%	20,874.6	51.3%	40,679.5

²¹ It should be noted that unlike other divisions and secretariats, the UNFFS lacks an RB post for the Deputy Director (D1), a specific Admin/Budget post (P4/P5), a specific RB post for IT issues (P3), and a specific RB post for technical issues related to forests (P3/P4) etc; the team will comment on such aspects.

2001 – 2006: MYPOW I; 2007 – 2015: MYPOW II

Source Proposed Programme Budgets - A/62/6 (Sect. 9) from 2000 - 2015

Figure 1. Trends in Regular Budget Funding by DESA Division/Office: 2000-2015 (in US\$ thousands)

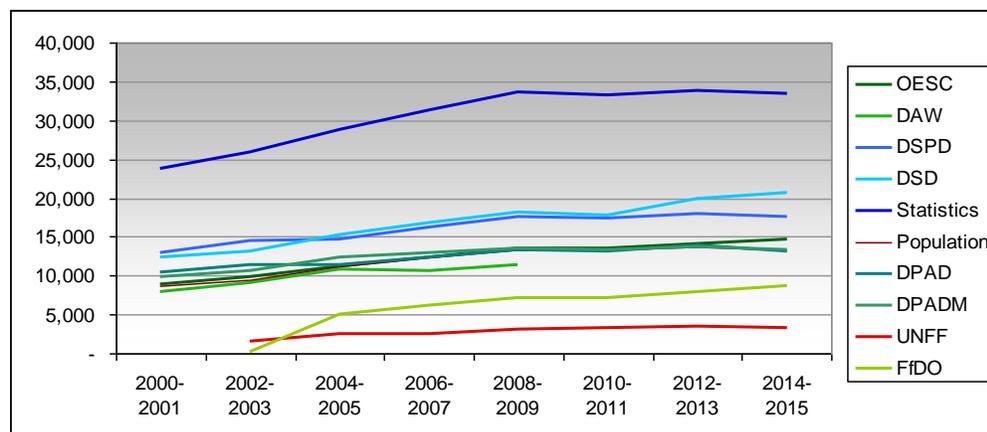


Table 5. Regular Budget Funding by DESA Division/Office: 2000-2015

Beneficiary Organisational Unit	US\$ '000							
	2000-2001	2002-2003	2004-2005	2006-2007	2008-2009	2010-2011	2012-2013	2014-2015
Office for ECOSOC Support and Coordination (OESC)	8,800.0	9,841.6	11,268.5	12,314.5	13,510.9	13,456.5	14,025.3	14,774.0
Division for the Advancement of Women (DAW)	7,932.2	9,169.7	10,775.8	10,604.0	11,411.6			
Division for Social Policy and Development (DSPD)	13,038.9	14,419.3	14,609.7	16,239.5	17,601.8	17,387.5	18,061.1	17,562.6
Division for Sustainable Development (DSD)	12,354.1	13,232.8	15,222.7	16,849.5	18,168.2	17,826.0	19,880.5	20,637.8
Statistics Division	23,823.6	25,873.3	28,757.7	31,231.5	33,536.6	33,169.7	33,870.0	33,473.8
Population Division	8,671.4	9,517.5	11,111.3	12,384.7	13,373.3	13,261.7	13,761.0	13,378.8
Development Policy and Analysis Division (DPAD)	10,374.4	11,423.6	11,462.1	12,414.5	13,327.1	13,084.9	13,923.7	13,180.4
Division for Public Administration and Development Management (DPADM)	9,777.7	10,584.1	12,344.8	12,901.6	13,461.3	13,251.7	13,708.3	13,327.7
UNFF Secretariat		1,564.7	2,420.8	2,579.4	3,105.5	3,340.6	3,445.0	3,348.9
Financing for Development Office (FfDO)		194.7	4,976.1	6,179.5	7,061.5	7,208.6	7,912.9	8,649.1
Total	94,772.3	105,821.3	122,949.5	133,698.7	144,557.8	131,987.2	138,587.8	138,333.1

Among 10 DESA Divisions/Offices, the UNFFS received the least allocation of RB resources and increases since its inception 13 years ago.

Figure 2. Trends in Extrabudgetary Funding by DESA Division/Office: 2000-2015 (in US\$ thousands)

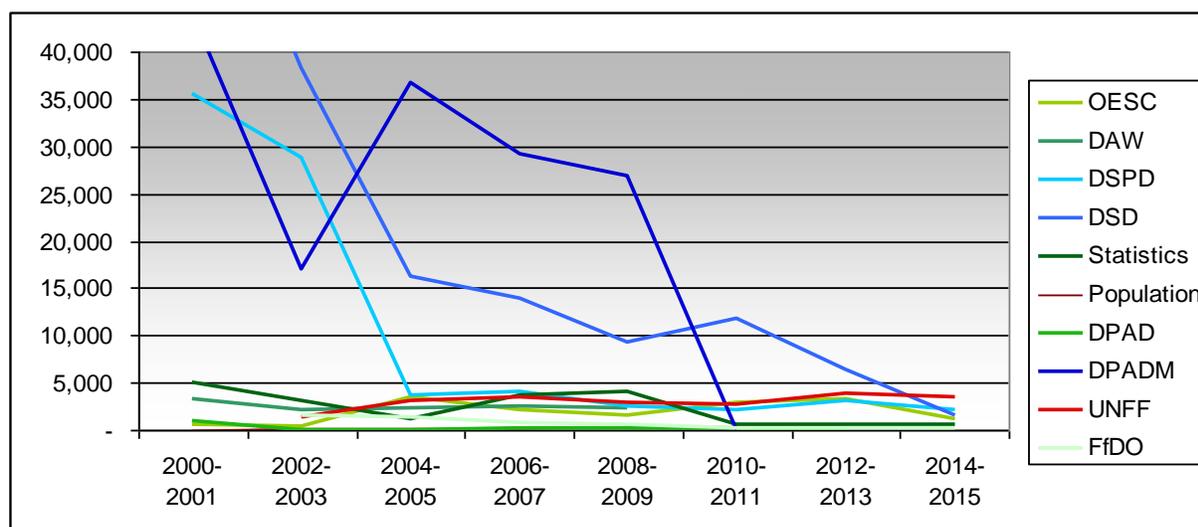


Table 6. Extrabudgetary Funding by DESA Division/Office: 2000-2015 (in US\$ thousands)

Beneficiary Organisational Unit	2000-2001	2002-2003	2004-2005	2006-2007	2008-2009	2010-2011	2012-2013	2014-2015
Office for ECOSOC Support and Coordination (OESC)	647.1	470.6	3,565.0	2,190.7	1,511.3	2,906.5	3,358.5	1,193.0
Division for the Advancement of Women (DAW)	3,242.9	2,146.6	2,362.8	2,586.0	2,336.9			
Division for Social Policy and Development (DSPD)	35,610.0	28,760.6	3,582.8	3,987.6	2,496.0	2,085.6	2,996.3	2,094.0
Division for Sustainable Development (DSD)	66,000.5	38,257.4	16,291.5	13,982.8	9,208.2	11,701.0	6,288.2	1,565.0
Statistics Division	5,050.1	3,000.0	1,219.0	3,630.5	4,082.0	587.0	488.2	518.0
Population Division	0.0	109.8	174.5	127.7	477.8	467.6	427.0	
Development Policy and Analysis Division (DPAD)	1,014.9	0.0	18	222.2	127.0	154.3	23	
Division for Public Administration and Development Management (DPADM)	44,095.4	17,006.0	36,625.3	29,275.0	26,884.5	26.0		
UNFF Secretariat		1,352.8	3,025.0	3,560.8	2,933.6	2,614.0	3,857.4	3,531.0
Financing for		1,631.5	1,379.8	701.0	676.0	186.0	190.6	145.0

Development Office (FfDO)								
Total	155,660.9	92,735.3	68,243.7	60,264.3	50,733.3	20,728.0	17,629.2	9,046.0

- Unlike other DESA Divisions/Offices which are receiving increased RB resources (see figure 1 above), UNFFS has increasingly been relying on extrabudgetary funding to implement its programme of work. This situation has created major challenges for the Secretariat, as the XB resources are neither sustainable, nor reliable and predictable. .

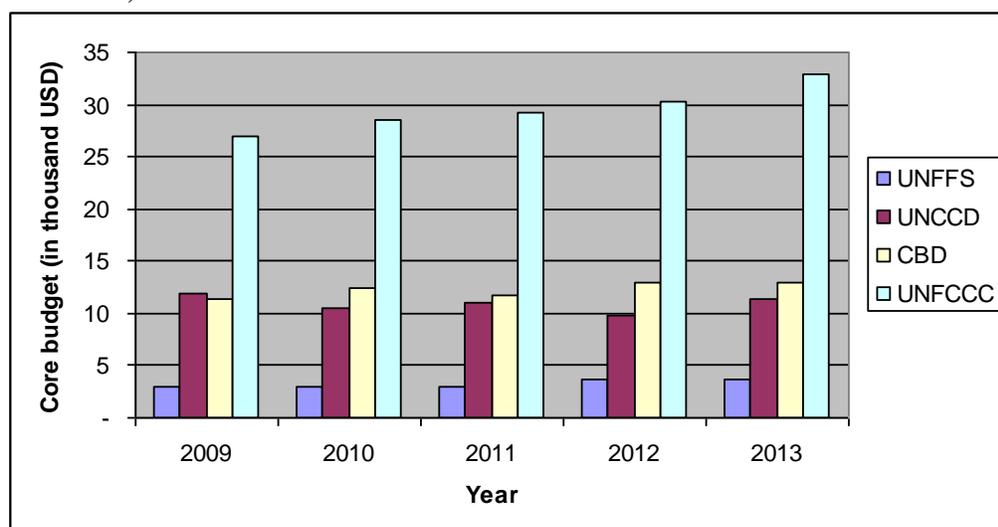
Table 7: UNFFS Budget compared to the Rio Conventions Budget (2009-2014, in US\$ thousands)

	UNFFS*	CBD	UNCCD	UNFCCC
2009	3,019.0	11,391.9	11,940.0	26,999.1
2010	2,977.0	12,355.1	10,418.8	28,443.0
2011	2,977.0	11,769.3	10,943.8	29,241.0
2012	3,651.0	12,989.7	9,715.8	30,270.7
2013	3,651.0	12,994.1	11,326.3	32,907.0

* The UNFFS budget includes both RB and XB resources.

Source - UN Programme Budgets for Section 9 - 2002 to 2015

Figure 3. UNFFS Budget compared to the Rio Conventions' Secretariat Budget (2009-2013, in US\$ thousands)



- For the period 2009-2013, the UNFF Secretariat has been supported by a level of budget resources rising from USD 3.01 million in 2009 to USD 3.65 million in 2013, posting the smallest annual budget in comparison to the Rio Conventions secretariat throughout the period.

- On average, the size of the UNFFS budget is equivalent to 26.4 per cent, 30.2 per cent, and 11.0 per cent of the CBD, UNCCD and UNFCCC budgets, respectively.

- In 2013, the budget of CBD, UNCCD, and UNFCCC was 355.9 per cent, 310.2 per cent, and 901.3 per cent higher than that of UNFFS, respectively.

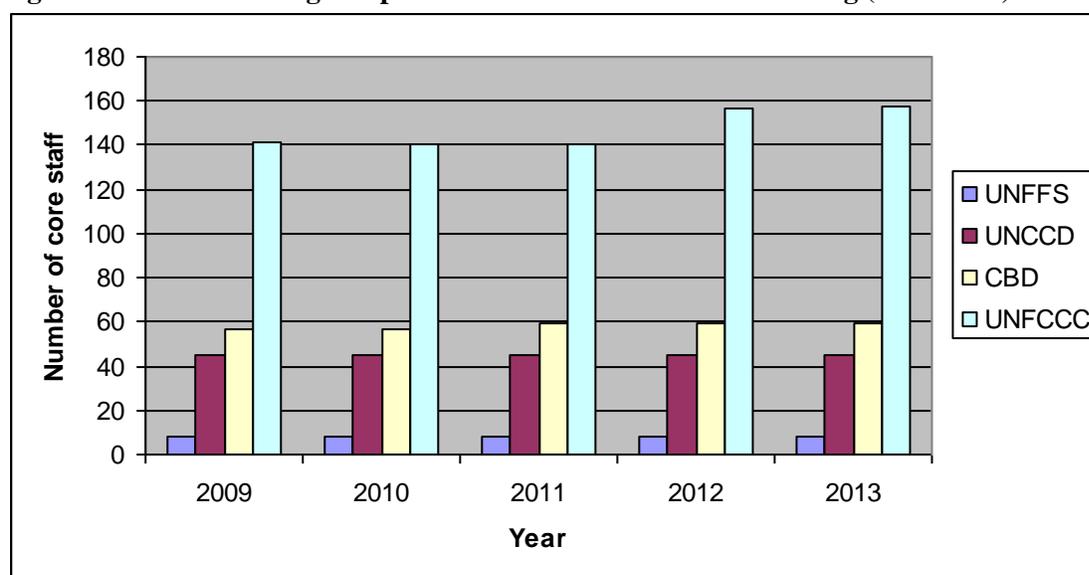
Table 8 UNFFS Core Staffing compared to the Rio Conventions Core Staffing (2009-2014)

	UNFFS*	CBD	UNCCD	UNFCCC
2009	8	57	45.25	141.5
2010	8	57	45.25	140.5
2011	8	59	45.25	140.5
2012	8	59	45	156.5
2013	8	59.5	45	157.5
2014	8	59.5	45	169.5

* Number of staff for UNFFS represents regular posts and does not include XB posts.

Source: UN Programme Budgets for Section 9 - 2002 to 2015; CBD COP 9, 10 & 11 Decisions: <http://www.cbd.int/decisions/>; UNCCD COP ES-I, 9, 10 and 11 Decisions: <http://www.unccd.int/en/about-the-convention/official-documents/Pages/default.aspx>; UNFCCC COP xxx 17 and 19 Decisions: <http://unfccc.int/documentation/decisions/items/3597.php?such=j&volltext=/CP#beg>

Figure 4. UNFFS Staffing compared to the Rio Conventions Staffing (2009-2013)



- For the period 2009-2013, the UNFF Secretariat has had 8 staff members, the smallest number of staff in comparison to the Rio Conventions.

- In 2013, the number of the UNFFS staff is equivalent to 13.4 per cent, 17.8 per cent, and 5.1 per cent of the number of CBD, UNCCD and UNFCCC staff, respectively.

- For the period 2009-2013, the number of UNFFS staff has not changed whereas the number of CBD and UNFCCC staff has seen a gradual increase, recording 4.4 and 19.8 per cent increase for the period, respectively.

Table 9: Human Resources of the UNFF Secretariat

Number of UNFFS Staff	RB	XB	CPF Seconded	Total
2002	6	0	3 (P4,P5 and D1)	9
2003	6	0	4 (P4,P5 & D1)	10
2004	6	5	4 (P4,P5 & D1)	15
2005	6	5	3 (P4 &D1s)	14
2006	6	6	3 (P4 &D1s)	15

2007	6	6	1 (D1)	13
2008	8	3		11
2009	8	3		11
2010	8	5	1(D1)	14
2011	8	5		13
2012	8	8	1(P-3)	17
2013	8	8	1(P-3)	17
2014	8	8	1(P-3)	17

Source: UNFF Secretariat

- For the period 2002-2014, the UNFF Secretariat has been staffed through RB, XB, and CPF secondment, rising from 9 in 2002 to 17 in 2014.

- The number of RB has seen an increase of 2 between 2007 and 2008, and has remained at 8 since 2008.

- The number of XB has increased from 0 in 2002 to 8 in 2014, and has remained at 8 since 2012.

- Only 4 out of 8 XB staff can remain in their XB posts due to lack of XB resources for 2014-2015. So the actual number of UNFFS staff for 2014-2015 currently stands at 13 (RB, XB and CPF seconded)

The level of staffing support through CPF secondment has diminished both in terms of number and staff level, showing the downward trend since 2004.

Figure 5. Number of CPF Seconded Staff to UNFFS 2000-2013

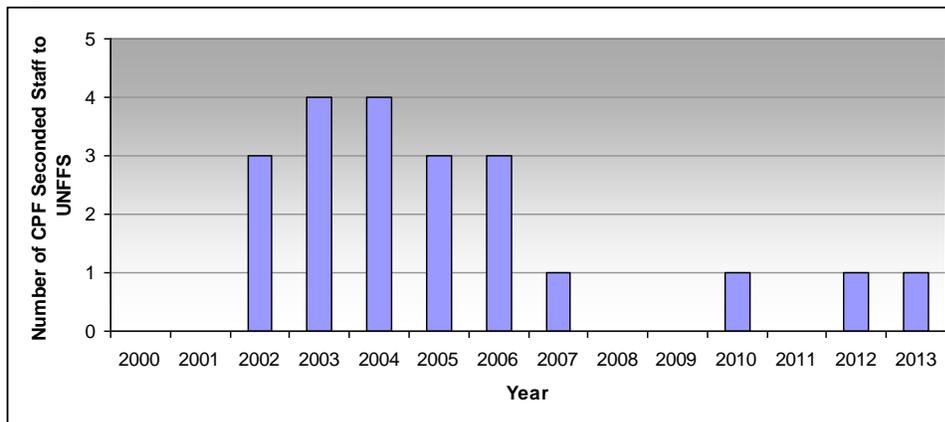


Figure 6. Trends in Number of Regular Budget Posts by DESA Division/Office

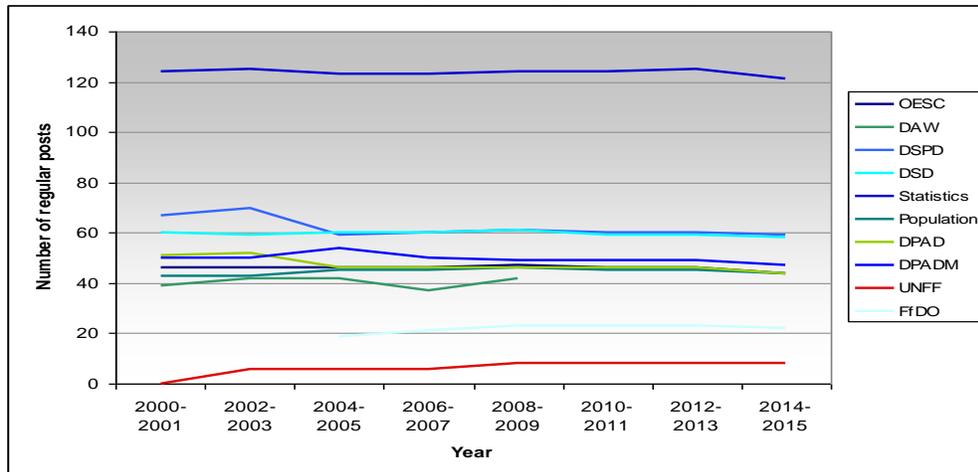


Table 10. Number of Regular Budget Posts by DESA Division/Office

Beneficiary Organisational Unit	2000-2001	2002-2003	2004-2005	2006-2007	2008-2009	2010-2011	2012-2013	2014-2015
Office for ECOSOC Support and Coordination (OESC)	46	46	46	46	47	46	46	44
Division for the Advancement of Women (DAW)	39	42	42	37	42	-		
Division for Social Policy and Development (DSPD)	67	70	59	60	61	60	60	59
Division for Sustainable Development (DSD)	60	59	60	60	61	59	59	58
Statistics Division	124	125	123	123	124	124	125	121
Population Division	43	43	45	45	46	45	45	44
Development Policy and Analysis Division (DPAD)	51	52	46	46	46	46	46	44
Division for Public Administration and Development Management (DPADM)	50	50	54	50	49	49	49	47
UNFF Secretariat	0	6	6	6	8	8	8	8
Financing for Development Office (FfDO)			19	21	23	23	23	22
Total	480	426	500	494	507	460	461	447

Figure 7. Trends in Number of Extrabudgetary Posts by DESA Division/Office

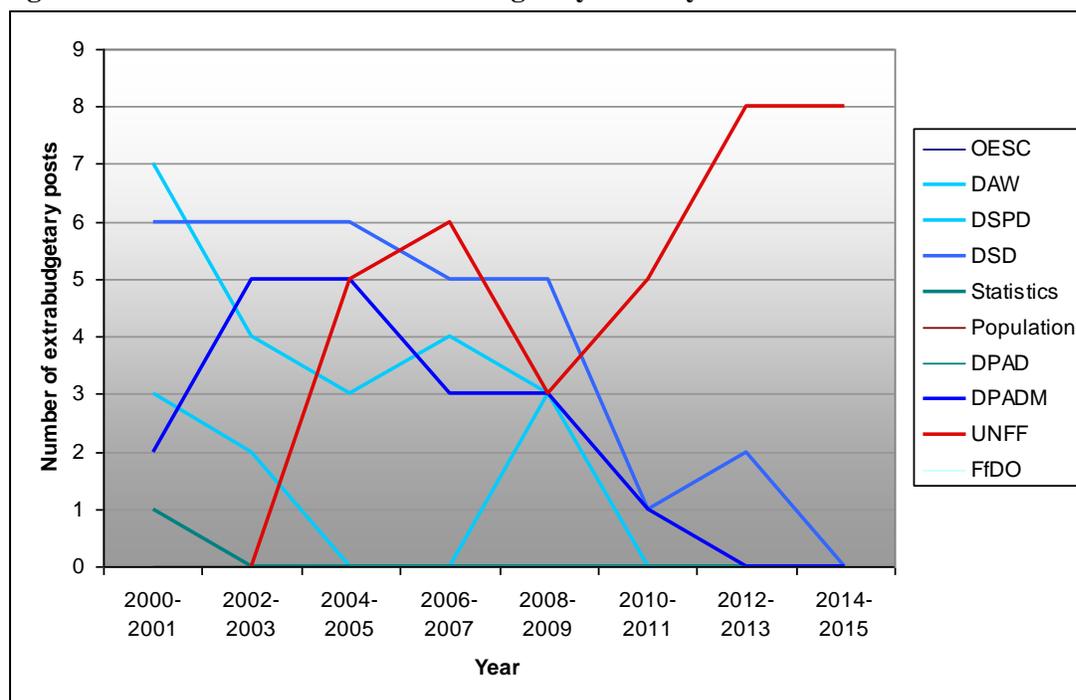


Table 11. Number of Extrabudgetary Posts by DESA Division/Office

Beneficiary Organisational Unit	2000-2001	2002-2003	2004-2005	2006-2007	2008-2009	2010-2011	2012-2013	2014-2015
Office for ECOSOC Support and Coordination (OESC)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Division for the Advancement of Women (DAW)	7	4	3	4	3			
Division for Social Policy and Development (DSPD)	3	2	0	0	3	0	0	0
Division for Sustainable Development (DSD)	6	6	6	5	5	1	2	0
Statistics Division	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Population Division	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Development Policy and Analysis Division (DPAD)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Division for Public Administration and Development Management (DPADM)	2	5	5	3	3	1	0	0
UNFF Secretariat		0	5	6	3	5	8	8
Financing for Development Office (FfDO)			0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	19	17	19	18	17	7	10	8

- Among 10 DESA Divisions/Offices, UNFFS has had the smallest number of RB staff since the 2000-2001 biennium.

- Unlike other DESA Divisions/Offices, UNFFS has increasingly been relying on extrabudgetary positions. The number of the XB posts has decreased for 2014 due to drop in XB funding.

Table 12: Evolution of funding resources allocated to Country-Led Initiatives (CLIs), Organization-Led Initiatives (OLIs) and Major Group-Led Initiatives (MLIs) in US\$²²²³

Year	CLI	OLI	MLI	Total number of events	RL/CL/IL Initiatives	Grand Total
2000	1			1		150,000
2001	2			2		300,000
2002	1			1		150,000
2003	3			3		450,000
2004	4	3		7		1,350,000
2005	3	1		4		700,000

²² As stated earlier, Independent assessment team is aware that the UNFFS does not have information on the budgets for the CLI, RLIs as these events were convened and managed by countries. It has been proposed to use a standard cost per event ; Secretariat then only needs to find number of events. If the spread in size of event is large, Secretariat can categorise and a range of standard costs will be applied.

²³ A standardized cost have been used to calculate the funding costs as follows: US\$150,000 per CLI, US\$250,000 per OLI, and US\$50,000 per MLI.

2006	1			1		150,000
2007	1			1		150,000
2008	4			4		600,000
2009	1			1		150,000
2010	1		1	2		200,000
2011	2			2		300,000
2012	2	1		3		550,000
2013			1	1		50,000
Total	26	5	2	33		5,250,000

3. CONTENT OF THE ASSESSMENT

3.1 Purpose of the Assessment

56. The purpose of the Independent Assessment of the IAF is to provide an independent expert input to the *ad-hoc* expert group on IAF, which is tasked to provide its views and recommendations to UNFF11 to arrive at decisions on the future of the IAF. The Independent Assessment Team will present a progress report to the AHEG I and will submit its final output prior to AHEG II. The assessment will analyse whether the IAF remains relevant and appropriate to its mandate, evaluating its performance in achieving the goals of its programme of work, effectiveness and efficiency since 2000. It will assess the impact of UNFF's work and the sustainability of actions and make recommendations for a future arrangement if any.

57. The assessment will cover the last 13 years of work of the UNFF. In its recommendations for future post-2015 international arrangements on forests, the independent assessment has a time frame of 10 years.²⁴

3.2 Scope of the Assessment

58. The scope of the assessment is represented following a sequential process and includes²⁵:

- (1) A commonly accepted description of priority challenges and opportunities facing forests and the potential contributions of forests to the MDGs will be developed by the assessment team based on

²⁴ The TOR says in c (iv): "Reviewing the relevance of the forest instrument in the context of the emerging Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and UN post-2015 developing agenda".

²⁵ UNFF Secretariat: To illustrate these details are consistent with the TOR, we suggest that in front of each of them, a reference to be made to relevant part of the Section V of the ToR (Elements of the Assessment).

the October 2013 preliminary discussion in Vienna. The relation of these priorities to the overall goals of the UNFF will be assessed.

- (2) Division of responsibilities among the parties to the IAF in implementing the UNFF agenda: governments; Secretariat; CPF; major groups.
- (3) Matching between what the IAF/UNFF has been and is doing to deal with the identified priority forest based challenges and opportunities will be assessed and the priority challenges and opportunities facing forests.
- (4) An analysis will be done of what other relevant international forest focused entities are doing related to the priority challenges and opportunities (in particular CPF members)
- (5) Comparing what UNFF and other entities are doing with a judgement of priority needs over the coming decade, a simple, strategic gap analysis will be done.
- (6) Assessment of the degree to which the UNFF is partnering/cooperating effectively with other sectors and institutions in the UNCED land cluster as well as with selected cross-cutting themes important for all chapters (e.g. sustainable production and consumption patterns; trade).
- (7) Looking at the gaps and current on-going activities in the context of (a) UNFF's comparative advantages being an UN-body, (b) links to member goals and strategic objectives, and (c) likely resource trends, an assessment of priorities for the future.

Much information to be used by the team will be gathered as set out in sections 2.2 – 2.4 above.

59. Consideration will be given to the work performed under system-wide UN reform processes, among them mainly the following:

- The reform of ECOSOC;
- The development of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) for which high-level guidance has come in the form of the document “*A New Global Partnership: Eradicate Poverty and Transform Economies Through Sustainable Development*” (UN, 2013) and other relevant reports and meeting results (e.g. 8th Session of the Open-Ended Working Group (Oceans and seas, forests, biodiversity) on Feb. 3-4, 2014.
- The High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development
- There are numerous other inputs that have been produced and contain new suggestions for the SDGs. The final SG report to the OWG/SDG which will contain his first concrete suggestions for the SDG will be presented in March 2014. The IAF Team will consider this report as the most comprehensive list of suggestions on the SDG, for the purpose of its work.

3.3 Stakeholder Analysis

60. The stakeholders targeted in this Assessment will be categorised into five groups:

- (1) the UNFF as an intergovernmental body consists of Member state governments;
- (2) The UNFFS in its three roles as Secretariat of the Forum, member of the CPF, and secretariat of the CPF
- (3) the CPF members, collectively and individually;
- (4) the Major Groups, including a short analysis of each of the 9 Major Groups separately;
- (5) Regional organisations/processes linking to UNFF.

This analysis includes a **quantitative analysis of participation in UNFF meetings**, including intersessional meetings²⁶ and input provided to the deliberations of UNFF.

3.4 Constraints Facing the Assessment

62. Potential constraints envisaged for this independent assessment include:

- The substantial number of stakeholders within the international forest arena (as previously outlined in this report, see also Annex 2), resulting in a number of agendas influencing the direction of the global debate on sustainable forest management. This will require the Assessment to be well-informed with regards to the broader global forest institutional architecture and the issues to ensure an independent stance.
- Securing balanced access to institutions in more developed and developing countries due to travel problems and greater media visibility of institutions in the former countries.
- Poor expected availability of reliable information on level of effort (for which funding is a proxy), especially in the private sector (both for-profit and non-profit).
- Conveying only what are essential messages about the continuing policy position contrasts about the UNFF Instrument and not letting this side-track the assessment of efficacy.
- Separating the assessment by the main constituencies of the UNFF and avoiding placing unwarranted responsibility on the UNFF Secretariat.
- Finding adequate information on **major groups**, especially the commercial private sector which appears not to have been regularly present at UNFF meetings. It is a fact that private sector is reluctant to participate in meetings relating to forests and environmental issues.

These potential constraints are being actively considered and mitigated to the extent possible.

4 ASSESSMENT DESIGN

4.1 Methodology

63. The assessment will base its findings and conclusions on evidence collected through a combination of tools and information sources. The assessment will be based on mixed methods of inquiry both qualitative and quantitative, which will enable the team to acquire an in-depth understanding of results, user groups and implementation dynamics, while getting a sense of representativeness regarding outputs and outcomes produced by the IAF. The team will review documents and collect facts and opinions from countries and a sample of relevant stakeholders, seeking to acquire perceptions from UNFF partners.

The credibility of the assessment will be supported, first of all, by an effort to validate the evidence gathered through the systematic triangulation of information sources. The assessment will ensure that stakeholders with diverse views are consulted to ensure the assessment is based on a comprehensive understanding of diverse perspectives on issues, performance and outcomes. It will present judgements with clear reference to evidence gathered and ensure findings, conclusions and recommendations logically derived from one another. The team members will apply their own technical judgement in the

²⁶ UNFF Secretariat will deliver information on this until the Jan. 2014 meeting of the team.

assessment of the work. Independence and rigour of analysis will underpin the whole independent assessment process. The Assessment will build on several phases of work:

- The *inception phase*, ending with the present inception report, consists of developing a common understanding amongst team members of the issues relating to its task and of gathering more in-depth data and information regarding various aspects of the work of the IAF through background research, in order to scope the review work more accurately (October – January 2014).
- The *inquiry phase* immediately following will include an early team briefing (in January 2014) and comprise the bulk of the data collection and analysis work by each team member at regional level. It includes reviewing the past performance of the UNFF and its processes since 2000, including ad hoc expert groups, regional and country-led initiatives. Each consultant will conduct the inquiry phase in his specific region. It will entail background research, desk reviews of specific areas of work, country and institutional visits, interviews of key informants and surveys of UNFF stakeholders. This phase includes reporting to AHEG 1 and receiving feedback from AHEG 1 (December 2013 – March 2014).
- The *conclusion and recommendation phase* which will start after AHEG-1 with a team meeting to assemble findings, preliminary conclusions and recommendations. This phase includes the assessment of full range of options, including a legally binding instrument on all types of forests, strengthening of the current arrangement, continuation of the current arrangement and other options. By that time, each team member will have prepared his inputs to the overall report. Drafting of the report is a joint team effort. The team will seek guidance and support from the Co-facilitators assigned by the UNFF bureau to facilitate the consultants to develop and submit a single consolidated report to the AHEG on the IAF. Draft final report will be produced for consideration by the Bureau at a meeting in late June or the first week of July 2014 and the final report shall be delivered latest by mid September 2014.

4.2 Assessment Questions

64. The Assessment should address a number of **core questions** listed below as appropriate and to the extent possible. In early interviews with stakeholders, some team members have found that it is impractical to retain the attention of those interviewed for all the ten questions, at least not to the same depth of replies. Pragmatism is needed in selecting what will yield best information and to formulate follow-up questions that elicit clearer insights. In raising the key questions listed below, the assessment team will communicate as clearly as possible to interviewees the importance of the following four dimensions in selecting what interventions for a future IAF (should one be agreed upon) will need:

- **Key performance** in terms of reaching tangible results that are recognized broadly
- **relevance** in terms of meeting member needs and responding to global forest challenges and opportunities;
- **convergence with other interventions**, if more than one intervention or party is engaged;
- **effectiveness** of the work carried out, including both in dialogue and SFM action on the ground; and
- **impact and sustainability** of impacts produced by all stakeholders working together.

List of questions:

- (1) What has been the past performance of the UNFF and its processes since 2000 in respect to policy implementation and awareness raising, taking into account key achievement or failures in implementing its 10 main functions? (7 functions up to 2006, 3 additional since 2006).

Consider also:

- a. Performance of member countries to implement the objectives of the UNFF?

- b. Performance of ad hoc expert groups and regional, organisation and country-led initiatives;
- c. UNFF's engagement with stakeholders, including major groups?
- d. Effectiveness of UNFF's processes of working.

Associated questions:

- How well does UNFF set priorities for its work? In setting priorities, how does UNFF balance:
 - Global priorities on forestry;
 - Member needs and requests;
 - Needs of other international processes and organisations;
 - Stakeholder needs;
 - UNFF's mandate and its comparative advantages as a UN-based organisations?
- Is UNFF's organizational setup adequate to fulfil its mandate?
 - Does UNFF adequately leverage its own resources through collaborative activity?
 - Is UNFF adequately involved in broader international discussions on relevant themes such as natural resource management, water, biodiversity conservation, desertification and climate change?
 - How does UNFF articulate its role with other institutions and actors in the forestry sector at global, regional and country levels?
- To what extent has UNFF's work in forestry influenced international institutional mechanisms and debates at landscape level?
- To what extent has gender and social inclusion been mainstreamed in UNFF's work?
- How adequately are cross-sectoral issues related to forestry addressed at UNFF?

- (2) What progress has been made in implementing the forest instrument²⁷ and the GOFs and in the contribution of forests and trees to the MDGs?

Associated questions:

- Where and how has the Forest Instrument been translated into action at national level?
- How relevant are the 4 global objectives on forests? Is there a need for revising them?
- What has changed at national forest policy level since the Forest Instrument has been put in place?

- (3) How can the profile of forests and trees outside of forests be enhanced or assured in the context of the formulation of the SDGs and the emerging UN-post 2015 development agenda and what role can the forest instrument play?

Associated Questions:

- How would you link the Forest Instrument to the SDGs and a UN-post 2015 development agenda?
- How effective has UNFF been in global discussions related to forestry and in addressing how forests and forestry respond to global issues?
- What is the contribution of UNFF's work on forestry to the UN's Global Goals, and to the Millennium Development Goals most closely related to forestry, namely: i) MDG 1 related to poverty alleviation and food security; ii) MDG 7 related to environment conservation and iii) MDG 8, related to creating a global partnership for development?

- (4) With regard to the UNFF, as a UN body: What is its comparative advantage compared with other international arrangements and bodies working in managing and conserving ecosystem services (forest, water, carbon, soils, biodiversity)?

Associated Question:

- How well placed is UNFF to:

²⁷ Given that the officially adopted Forest Instrument itself is very recent, keep an eye also on the building blocks of the Forest Instrument, in particular the Forest Principles, IPF and IFF.

exercising influence and facilitating cooperation around the IAF
embracing new and emerging issues relating to forest management?
collaborate with regional processes, conventions and networks?

- (5) How well does the UNFF Secretariat operate, taking into account the specifics (its size, reliance on secondments, CPF and particular management constraints)?
- (6) How well does CPF as a collective group and CPF members individually respond to the needs of the UNFF, considering in particular:
- a. Priority setting;
 - b. Programmes;
 - c. Working arrangements among the CPF organisations in ensuring coherence/concentration and coordination/convergence of actions taken;
 - d. Impact of CPF work;
 - e. Capacity of the CPF to sustain balance in interventions, given shifts over time in the priorities of its main donors;
 - f. Effectiveness of working arrangements between CPF organisations and UNFF Secretariat?
- (7) What are the main constraints in financing and implementing the forest instrument at the national, regional and international levels and all relevant resolutions in this regard? What are the main options that can generate necessary resources from all sources for all types of forests and trees outside forests?
- (8) With judgement to be driven largely by its capacity to mobilise practical international actions on forests, what should be the most feasible options for a post-2015 International Arrangement on Forests?

Associated Questions:

- What should be the future strategic and technical priorities of the IAF for post 2015?
- What attributes would such IAF need to better highlight and sustain global acceptance of the importance of forests under the SDGs and any other successor MDG processes?

- (9) Is the elaboration of a SFM legally-binding agreement that replaces the UNFF in a stepwise fashion among the feasible IAF options to pursue and, if so, should that instrument be negotiated within or outside the UNFF? What institutional arrangements would need to be considered?

Associated Question:

- In negotiating a global agreement, what do you see as the role of regional agreements, processes and networks?

4.3 Data Collection and Tools

65. The assessment will develop and apply a range of tools which are described below.

4.3.1 Study of former review findings

66. The assessment will make use of available reports on programmes, thematic areas and countries reports, including the following (see details in Annex 4):

- “Report of the Secretary-General on the review of the effectiveness of the international arrangement on forests” (2005), working document under UNFF-5;
- Reviews by any former Directors of UNFF and core staff involved in the processes;
- External views by major groups are worth accessing too (website search for a balanced range of NGOs and commercial private sector groups in the various regions).
- Reviews of the CPF members in part related to IAF

4.3.2 Interviews

66. **Interviews with key forestry institutions and experts:** The opinion of key informants within institutions throughout the world dealing with forestry and related issues will be collected through phone interviews, or face-to-face meetings if possible. They will be instrumental in providing the team with some insights into the perceptions of external stakeholders with regards to UNFF’s work.

Interviews with country representatives, UNFF Secretariat, DESA, CPF members and major groups:

The Independent Assessment team will finalise an agreed list at its January 2014 meeting. Team members are in the meantime opportunistically having interviews at meetings where good participation is expected.

Especially with regard to major groups, team members should come with proposals to the January New York meeting, covering all nine major groups.

Regional Consultations organised by the 5 experts:

- a. Fact Finding/Assessment Phase (December 2013 to April 2014) – this will involve travel proposed under section 5.3. Brief interaction with regional government officials was held in Vienna on October 23, 2013. Team members are in the meantime opportunistically having interviews at meetings where good participation is expected.
- b. Consolidation and Recommendation Phase (May to August 2014) – this too involves scheduling, shown under section 5.3.

4.4 Quality Assurance

67. In order to ensure technical rigour to the assessment, the following quality assurance mechanisms will be implemented during the assessment exercise:

- Internal exchange within the team: The team interacts through regular e-mail exchanges and skype conferences. It aims to meet at least every 3 months physically to exchange views, approaches and results. Each team member takes a particular responsibility for “his” region, but the team interacts on all issues of the independent assessment.
- Team Meetings with Facilitators. Facilitators should attend the planned physical meetings (as agreed in the January meeting in New York).
- Interaction with UNFF Bureau: The UNFF Bureau (through coordination with the UNFFS) is copied on all e-mail correspondence and participates in all skype conferences and face-to-face meetings of the team.
- AHEG I and II meetings: will be attended by the entire team.

5. ORGANISATION OF THE ASSESSMENT

5.1 Roles and Responsibilities

68. The assessment is being conducted by a team of independent consultants/experts selected individually by the UNFF bureau. The experts have extensive and proven experience at the international level, working for international and development agencies on issues, programmes and policies related to forests and trees outside of forests. They have an understanding and knowledge of the international debate on forestry and related issues, such as natural resources conservation, climate change, water and/or bio-fuels. They also have demonstrated knowledge of the main global institutions (UN and non-UN) involved in forestry.

Their regional origin (all 5 regions of the UNFF will be represented) and five main dimensions of forestry work, i.e. governance, conservation, management, economics and institutions, will help define lines of work for each of the team members. The allocation of responsibilities among the team members will be further refined at the time of the team meeting.

The team composition is as follows:

- BLASER, Juergen (WEOG- Switzerland)
- CHIPETA, Mafa Evaristus (Africa-Malawi)
- LOBOVIKOV, Maxim (Eastern Europe- Russian Federation)
- ILLUECA, Jorge (Latin America and the Caribbean- Panama)
- UMALI, Ricardo Martinez (Asia- the Philippines)

Co-Facilitators

- HOOGEVEEN, Hans, Netherlands
- Ambassador ABDULLAH, Saiful, Malaysia

Distribution of work amongst team members:

69. The team will work through a matrix approach, under which each regional consultant works on inputs from his particular region on all the main topics and delivers them to the consultant that takes a specific thematic responsibility. Thus the team aims to achieve the intention of each consultant providing an in-depth report on the theme selected for him, but ALSO provides substantive regional-perspective inputs on all other topics [assignments (a) – (h) of the TORs] to the other consultants assigned the thematic lead on a specific topic. A safety feature is also taken into consideration: to have each thematic topic led by one consultant, but in each case to also designate an “alternate”.

Consultants		Thematic Work of The Consultant	Regional Tasks by Same Consultant	Timing
Lead	Alternate			(to be confirmed)
UMALI, Ricardo Martinez	LOBOVIKOV, Maxim	<i>Assignment (b): Reviewing UNFF and its processes since year 2000 . . .</i>	Each consultant to provide for his region of origin highlights of regional perspectives on TOR themes to lead	Oct 2013 – June 2014
ILLUECA, Jorge	CHIPETA, Mafa Evaristus	<i>Assignment (c): Assessment of forest instrument . . .</i>		Oct 2013 – June 2014
CHIPETA, Mafa Evaristus	BLASER Juergen	<i>Assignments(d) + (e): Review Forum’s Secretariat; Review CPF (with which Secretariat</i>		Nov 2013 – June 2014

		works closely therefore sensible to package the two together)	thematic consultant colleagues on all assignments (b) to (h). Regional input preferably in bullet-points format for ease of synthesis.	
LOBOVIKOV, Maxim	UMALI, Ricardo Martinez	<u>Assignment (f) + (g): <i>Review of financing; Full range of financing options & strategies</i></u>		Oct 2013 – June 2014
BLASER, Juergen	ILLUECA, Jorge	<u>Assignment (h): <i>The UNFF in the context of UN Sustainable Development framework/Inter-sectoral context/MDGs and MEAs</i></u>		Nov 2013 – May 2014
All consultants + Co-facilitators		<u>Assignment (a): <i>Consider a full range of options, including a legally-binding instrument or otherwise. . . .</i></u>		August 2014

70. The Assessment team will be supported throughout the Assessment by a senior staff member of the UNFF Secretariat, Mr. Hossein Moeni-Meybodi, and by Thida Sam as a support staff. In addition, the UNFF Secretariat will provide administrative and logistical support to the team.

5.2 Timeline

The following time line is proposed by the team

Mid-October 2013 – January 2014	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Inception phase including working group meeting in Vienna, 22-23 Oct. 2013 ▪ Synthesis of past reviews and desk reviews of important papers ▪ Preparation of surveys ▪ Telephone interviews within the concerned regions ▪ Briefing of the Assessment Team through 2 skype conferences ▪ Individual work programme by team members in the respective regions
January – March 2014	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Continuous interactions ▪ Joint work meeting in New York (9- 11 Jan 2013) ▪ Skype conferences amongst the team (as needed) ▪ One team member participating on the 8th session of the OWG/SDGs ▪ AHEG-1 in Nairobi (24-28 Feb. 2014) ▪ Continuous interactions
April- – May 2014	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Main assessment and writing period ▪ Further meeting(s) of the team (end of phase 1)
Mid-June 2014	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Submit of inter-medium report to the Bureau for consideration at its meeting late June/1st week of July ▪ Team meeting with bureau in New York
August – September 2014	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Revise in the light of comments from the Bureau ▪ Last agreements, Finalization of the main report, proof-reading, formatting ▪ Submission of Report for editing
September 2014	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Editing the Report ▪ Submission of Final Report to the Bureau and UNFFS by 25 September 2014 ▪ Followed by a period of corrections/justifications in preparation to AHEG-2

5.3 Travel of the Independent Assessment Team Members

a. Inquiry Phase (mainly December 2013 – May 2014)

Region	Time Frame	Type Of Interaction
Entire IA Team to coincide in one place	9-11 January 2014	Team meetings at the New York UNFF Secretariat
	24-28 February 2014	AHEG Meeting in Nairobi, Kenya
	April or May 2014	Team meeting, most probably in New York

Mafa CHIPETA		
Africa	12-15 November 2013 24-30 November 2013 December 2013 6-15 January 2014 21-28 February 2014 1-3 March 2014 (not confirmed yet)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Pretoria, South Africa ▪ Libreville, Gabon: ITTO Council meeting. On margins (i) to meet all key tropical forest countries on thematic assessment “<u>Assignments (d) + (e)</u>”: <i>Review Forum’s Secretariat; Review CPF</i>; (ii) to Meet Congo Basin countries under COMIFAC umbrella. ▪ African Forest Forum technical meeting: take advantage to address “<u>Assignments (d) + (e)</u>” ▪ New York Consultants/Facilitators meeting ▪ Nairobi, Kenya: 21 – 28 February meetings of consultants; UNFF11 Bureau; AHEG1 on IAF ▪ Rome, Italy: 01-04 March on assignment (b) + (c), to see FAO Rome; can also visit CGIAR biodiversity centre at Macarresse.

Ricardo UMALI		
Asia		Not defined yet due to illness of Ricardo

Jorge ILLUECA		
Tropical Americas	20-23 October 2013 December 2013X 7-10 January 2014 4-8 February 2014	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Meeting in Vienna ▪ Meetings and telephone calls with various country representatives at UNFF ▪ Team meeting in New York and interviews and exchanges at UN and with various CPF members ▪ Meeting of the Working Group in the post 2015 SDGs on oceans, biodiversity and forests in New York and with delegations of Argentina, Brazil, Costa Rica,

Juergen BLASER		
Western Europe and other States	9-13 December 2013 January 2014 up to April 2014 (according to the particular travel schedule and in	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Selected meetings with parties in the margin of the European Forest Week (not cost implication for UNFF) • Meetings with EU-Task Force on UNFF (at least two meetings between January and May, dates depend on the meeting schedule of EU in Brussels) • Meeting in Bonn (BLW), IP-BES, FSC (March/April 1 day)

	combination with other meetings and missions)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meeting in Vienna: IUFRO, GoA (April 1 day) • Meeting with US Government and major groups, Washington DC (mid-February). Also World Bank, IUCN, WRI- • Geneva: UNECE, CITES, IUCN Gland, ATIBT, WWF International • Skype Exchange with Australia, NSL, Japan and Canada: to determinate
Maxim LOBOVIKOV		
CIS STATES AND EASTERN EUROPE	January-April 2014	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meetings with permreps and missions to UNFF in NY (Jan 7-14 2014) • Meetings with EEG in the framework of the Working Party on Forests in Brussels (on 16 Jan 2014 and in April 2014) • IUFRO meeting in Vienna • Geneva: UNECE, CITES, IUCN Gland, ATIBT, WWF Intern.

5.4 Consolidation Phase (Feb – June 2014)

Region	Time Frame	Type Of Interaction
Entire IA Team to coincide in one place	Avril/May 2014	Team meeting in NY to discuss and begin preparing the first draft of the final report
	Beginning of July 2014	Team meeting in NY to work on first draft of final report and presentation of the report to the UNFF Bureau
	Jan 12-16, 2015	AHEG-2 Meeting in New York

5.5 Deliverables

The main output of the independent assessment is a **single combined report** by the 5 team members. The main written products include a number of documents, as follows:

- Inception Report that outlines some common analytical analysis and elements that describe how the IA team will be organized and will work together;
- Short notes synthesizing key information drawn from meetings and team discussions;
- Individual notes by team members from regional and country exchange meetings
- Draft synthesis on the work of the team to be presented at AHEG 1
- Five synthesis reports on regional inputs (in short concise form agreed on among team members in the team meeting in January 2014)
- Main report: Final Assessment Report for submission to the AHEG 2 by 15 September 2014, latest (targeted for 15 September before final lay-out and prove-reading). (see table under 5.2 on timeline)

Inception Report: Key Documents and References

References

- AGF. 2012. *2012 Study on Forest Financing. Advisory Group on Finance. Collaborative partnership on forests June 2012*. Available at: <http://www.un.org/esa/forests/pdf/cpf-oli/AGF-Study-July-2012.pdf>
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- [ECOSOC Resolution/2000/35](#) that establishes the UNFF as part of a new international arrangement on forests, : http://www.un.org/esa/forests/pdf/2000_35_E.pdf.
- First [Multi-Year Programme of Work](#) (MYPOW) from 2001-2005
- Strengthening of the International Arrangements on Forests through [ECOSOC resolution 2006/49](#), <http://www.un.org/en/ecosoc/docs/2006/resolution%202006-49.pdf>, including the resolution the adoption of the four shared Global Objectives on Forests, and the addition of three principal functions for the UNFF (in addition to the six already contained in [ECOSOC resolution 2000/35](#)).
- The [Non-Legally Binding Instrument on All types of Forests](#) was adopted on 28 April 2007. The Instrument was adopted by the UN General Assembly ([Resolution 62/98](#)) on 17 December 2007.
- Second MYPOW (2007-2015) <http://daccessny.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N07/349/31/PDF/N0734931.pdf?OpenElement>

Other documents

- 2006/49: <http://www.un.org/en/ecosoc/docs/2006/resolution%202006-49.pdf>
- Resolution 1 of UNFF7 and its annex- Document E/2007/42: http://www.un.org/esa/forests/pdf/ERes2007_40E.pdf
- Resolution 2 of UNFF10 and its annex-Document E/2013/42: <http://daccess-dds-ny.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N13/321/90/PDF/N1332190.pdf?OpenElement>
- Terms of Reference for the Independent Assessment of the IAF (<http://www.un.org/esa/forests/pdf/aheg/TOR-IAF.pdf>) and

The following links on **relevant intergovernmental processes on the Rio+20, post-2015 UN development agenda**, and the ECOSOC reform processes:

- <http://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/index.php?menu=1556>
- <http://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/index.php?menu=1549>
- <http://www.un.org/millenniumgoals/beyond2015-overview.shtml>
- <http://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/index.php?menu=1557>

<http://www.un.org/en/ecosoc/about/strengtheningofecosoc.shtml>

ANNEXES

Annex 1: TOR of the Independent Assessment

Terms of Reference for the UNFF's "Independent Assessment of the International Arrangement on Forests" Consultant from the Latin American and Caribbean Region

I. Background

1. According to the multi-year programme adopted in 2007, the overall theme of the eleventh session of the United Nations Forum on Forests (UNFF11) in 2015 will be "Forests: progress, challenges and the way forward for the international arrangement on forests". At this session, the Forum will convene a high-level segment to review the effectiveness of the international arrangement on forests (IAF).
2. In preparation for the review of the IAF at UNFF11 in 2015 and as a part of intersessional activities on this matter leading up to UNFF11, Member States through Resolution 2 of UNFF10 decided to conduct an "Independent Assessment of the IAF".²⁸
3. The present text includes the scope and framework for the Independent Assessment of the IAF (see annex), its objectives, the deliverables, timelines and a substantive context for the consultants who will carry out this work. This text is developed and finalized by the UNFF secretariat, in consultation with the UNFF11 Bureau, in response to paragraph (b) (ii) (2) of Annex to Resolution 2 of UNFF10.

II. Elements of the review of the IAF

4. Based on the resolutions E/2000/35, E/2007/42, E/2006/49, and resolution 2 of UNFF10, the review of the effectiveness of the IAF should include the review of the following:
 - a) Consideration of a full range of options, including a legally binding instrument on all types of forests, strengthening of the current arrangement, continuation of the current arrangement and other options;²⁹
 - b) Past performance of the UNFF, its processes and multi-year programme of work (MYPOW), including ad hoc expert groups and country-led initiatives, as well as future options for the UNFF; (UNFF10 res.);
 - c) Progress towards implementation of the non-legally binding instrument on all types of forests (forest instrument) and achievement of the four Global Objectives on Forests (GOFs), including a review of the relationship of the forest instrument with the international conventions and Intergovernmental Organizations (IGOs) that have a bearing on the Forum's mandate; (UNFF10);
 - d) Effectiveness of the forest instrument (E/2007/42, para 22);

²⁸ OP6 of Resolution 2 of UNFF10

²⁹ Chapeau of OP5 of UNFF10 resolution 2

- e) The contribution of forests and the IAF, including the forest instrument, to the internationally agreed development goals (E/2007/42), para 23.
- f) The Forum's Secretariat;
- g) The Collaborative Partnership on Forests (CPF) and its contributions to the work of the Forum, and related activities by individual CPF member organisations in support of the Forum's Resolutions;
- h) Means of Implementation for the forest instrument and relevant subsequent resolutions, and the Facilitative Process;
- i) The UNFF within the context of the UN sustainable development framework, including the outcomes from the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development and the United Nations development agenda beyond 2015.

III. Objectives of the Independent Assessment of the IAF

5. The IAF is an informal title given to the actors which constitute the UNFF's "membership". The first and primary are Member States and countries who are members of the Forum; acting individually and working together as the Forum. The second component is the UNFF Secretariat. The third is the voluntary partnership of the CPF and other relevant IGOs in contributing to the work of the UNFF individually and collectively, including implementation of the Resolutions of the Forum. The fourth are regional organizations and their processes, and Major Groups who take part in the Forum's sessions.
6. The centrepiece of the IAF is to promote conservation and sustainable management of all types of forests through implementation of the forest instrument and achievement of its four shared global objectives on forests and subsequent Resolutions of the Forum, as well as the contribution of forests to the internationally agreed development goals including the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). The primary focus is on implementation of policies in these areas.
7. The objective of the Independent Assessment of the IAF is to assist and inform the AHEG on the IAF in preparing for UNFF11. The assessment will analyze the achievements, relevance, efficiency and effectiveness of the IAF since 2000. It will assess the impact of UNFF's work and the sustainability of actions and make recommendations to AHEG for a future arrangement.³⁰

IV. Working Modalities

8. To conduct the Independent Assessment of the IAF, the UNFF11 Bureau will identify a list of experts, taking into consideration competencies, including evaluation methodology expertise, as well as regional balance.³¹ The UNFF Secretariat will hire five independent experts (consultants) from the longer list of candidates which is provided by the UNFF11 Bureau. The consultants will be hired on an individual basis. However, each of the consultants shall write a report from the perspective of their regions focused on the components of the Independent Assessment of the IAF, as outlined in these ToRs and in particular, in section V of these ToRs.

³⁰ Paragraph (b) (i) of Annex of Resolution 2 of UNFF10

³¹ Ibid. Paragraph (b) (ii) (1)

9. In addition, the Bureau of UNFF11 will appoint two Co-Facilitators, one from the North and one from the South, to act on its behalf to facilitate the consultants in their submission of a single consolidated report to the AHEGs on the IAF. The Co-Facilitators will facilitate the consultants to work together as a team to collate the various regional perspectives into one complete, consolidated Independent Assessment of high quality, as the final output for these ToRs. To this end, the Co-Facilitators will convene a first meeting with the consultants immediately following their appointments, and between the meetings of the AHEGs on the IAF to develop the consolidated output to AHEG2 on the IAF.

V. Assignment

10. The consultant from the Latin American and Caribbean region shall compile and analyse information and provide views and recommendations, taking into account the Latin American and Caribbean region perspective on:
 - a) Consideration of a full range of options, including a legally binding instrument on all types of forests, strengthening of the current arrangement, continuation of the current arrangement and other options;³²
 - b) The past performance of the UNFF and its processes since 2000, including ad hoc expert groups, regional and country-led initiatives, as well as future options for the UNFF's role, including:
 - i. Identifying the key achievements or failures of UNFF in implementing its main functions (ten functions).
 - ii. Reviewing the UNFF structure and the sufficiency of its current biennial session in reaching intergovernmental agreement on necessary actions to be taken and in providing policy advice and guidance on all issues related to all types of forests and at all levels.
 - iii. Reviewing the role and impact of awareness-raising activities such as the International Year of Forests, and the International Day of Forests in promoting greater awareness and strengthening political and public commitment for forests.
 - iv. Reviewing the role and impact of Country-Led Initiatives (CLIs) and ad hoc expert groups (AHEG) in the work of the UNFF.
 - v. Reviewing the engagement of stakeholders, including major groups in the work of the Forum, with the view to making suggestions for their meaningful participation and involvement in the UNFF work.
 - c) Review of the forest instrument and other options referenced in the aforementioned ECOSOC resolutions, including progress towards achieving the four GOFs. This should include a review of the relationship of the forest instrument with international conventions that have a bearing on the Forum's mandate, including:
 - i. Assessing the progress made in implementing the forest instrument and the GOFs, including assessing the trends reported from member states and the FAO's Forest Resource Assessment (FRA).

³² Chapeau of OP5 of UNFF10 Resolution 2

- ii. Making suggestion on further strengthening the functions of the UNFF and other components of the IAF to address data gaps and related capacity development needs of countries.
 - iii. Assessing the contributions made by forests and trees to the MDGs.
 - iv. Reviewing the relevancy of the forest instrument in the context of the emerging Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and UN post-2015 development agenda.
- d) Review of the Forum's Secretariat, including:
- i. The "compact and efficient" UNFF Secretariat composed of 8 regular UN posts and voluntary Trust Fund supported positions.
 - ii. A comparative analysis of the structure, management, human and financial resources of the Secretariat with the mandates of similar types of secretariats.
 - iii. The experience with secondments from CPF member organizations.
 - iv. The percentage of time and resources spent on supporting CPF work, by the Secretariat, both as a member and as its secretariat.
 - v. Constraints faced by the Secretariat.
 - vi. Suggestions on strengthening the Secretariat of the Forum to enable it to fulfill its functions more effectively (para 17 of E/2006/42).
- e) Review of the CPF as a group of member organizations, working collectively as a whole to support the implementation of the Resolutions of the UNFF, as well as individually as independent IGO's, including:
- i. Criteria for CPF priority setting
 - ii. Programs and actions taken by different CPF members in implementing resolutions and supporting the work of UNFF since its inception
 - iii. Public understanding of the CPF "brand", and when a product should be branded as a CPF product
 - iv. Funding or absence of funding for CPF activities
 - v. Impact of CPF work
 - vi. Consideration of how the CPF can further contribute to the work of the UNFF
- f) Review of financing for implementing the forest instrument at national, regional and international levels and all relevant resolutions, and the Facilitative Process in this regard, including reviewing and analyzing:
- i. The adequacy of resources for implementation of the forest instrument.

- ii. All relevant resolutions and their implementation or lack thereof since 2000.
 - iii. The impacts of the resolutions of the UNFF9 Special Session and UNFF9 on advancing means of implementation for the forest instrument.
 - iv. The role and impacts of the Facilitative Process in helping countries to catalyze financing for implementation of the forest instrument.
 - v. Additional steps required by UNFF to advance financing for implementation of the forest instrument.
- g) A full range of financing options and strategies, including the establishment of a voluntary global forest fund, in order to mobilize resources from all sources in support of sustainable forest management for all types of forests and trees outside forests;³³ including:
- i. Identifying detailed financing options that can generate resources from all sources for all types of forests and trees outside forests.
 - ii. Concrete steps that UNFF, CPF members and other organisations should undertake to develop forest financing options.
 - iii. The option for the creation of a voluntary Global Forest Fund.
- h) The UNFF, within the context of the UN Sustainable Development framework, including the outcomes from the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20), including SDGS, the MDGs and the UN post-2015 development agenda and taking into account the impact of UNFF in all social, economic and environmental aspects and the related services of forests and trees outside of forests within the UN system and the specific roles for UNFF in implementing the UN post 2015 development agenda and the SDGs.

VI. Expected output

11. The consultants, including the one from the Latin American and Caribbean region, facilitated by the Co-Facilitators, will provide one consolidated report with the results of their work on the elements referred to in Section V on Assignment. The Co-Facilitators will work with the consultants to submit an interim report for the consideration of the first meeting of the AHEG for IAF 2015, followed by the final report, which will be required prior to and for submission to the second meeting of the AHEG on the IAF.³⁴

VII. Methodology

12. The Independent Assessment of the IAF, as one part of the overall review of the effectiveness of the IAF, needs to be forward-looking and informative, using evidence-based analysis of the strengths and shortcomings of working modalities and outcomes of to utilize various methods of work including interviews, surveys, and consultations with leaders, experts and stakeholders.

VIII. Duration and Remuneration

13. The team will consist of five consultants, one from each of the UN regions. The assignment for the consultant from the Latin American and Caribbean region will begin no earlier than 16 October 2013 and conclude no later than 15 September 2014 for a total of 60 working days. The proposed fee is US\$500 per day. The total remuneration for this assignment is US\$30,000 and the tentative payment schedule is as follows:

³³ Resolution 2 of UNFF10-OP21

³⁴ Ibid.Paragraph (b) (ii) 5 of Annex

- a. 15 December 2013 – 20% of total fee, upon receipt of the first substantive progress report to the UNFF11 Bureau
- b. 15 February 2014 – 30% of total fee, upon receipt of the second substantive progress report to the UNFF11 Bureau and to AHEG1
- c. 15 June 2014 – 30% of total fee, upon receipt of the draft output,
- d. 15 September 2014 – 20% of total fee, upon satisfactory completion of the work and submission of the final output

IX. Travel

14. In view of the consultative nature of the assignment, the consultant will be required to travel to the first and second meetings of the AHEG on the IAF and to UNFF11 Bureau meetings. Meetings with the Co-Facilitators will occur on the margins of UNFF11 Bureau meetings. Travel will also be required to participate in *ad hoc* meetings and to assigned regions for not more than 20 days during the course of the contract. The consultant will be issued a round-trip economy ticket and a daily subsistence allowance in accordance with UN regulations. The travel itineraries will be determined in due course and the related costs will be obligated separately.

X. Performance Indicators

15. The consultant's performance will be assessed against the following indicators:
- a) Timely deliverable of outputs in accordance with the given timeline;
 - b) A draft which provides a cogent articulation of the key issues, a deep analysis, taking into account regional perspectives;
 - c) The final output to be adhered to these ToRs.

XII. Competencies and qualifications

16. Each consultant shall have the following competencies and qualifications:
- a) A thorough knowledge of international forest policies and multilateral institutions and policy processes related to forests, trees outside of forests, the Rio Conventions, and with expertise in more than one of the economic, social and environmental aspects of sustainable forest management;
 - b) At least 20 years of experience in areas directly related to sustainable forest management and international cooperation, with broad knowledge of the interrelated nature of natural resource management and the cross-sectoral and inter-institutional nature of forests;
 - c) Experience in governments, intergovernmental negotiations which create policies and laws and oversee enforcement of more than two areas of economic, social and environmental matters related to forests and trees;
 - d) Excellent policy, analytical, technical, interpersonal and drafting skills, including experience in conducting independent assessments;
 - e) No conflicts of interest;
 - f) Oral and written fluency in English;
 - g) Participation in UNFF activities is an advantage;
 - h) Willingness to work collaboratively on a team.

XIII. Supervising and reporting modality

17. The consultants will work under the overall guidance of the UNFF11 Bureau, coordinated by the Co-Facilitators and will report regularly on the progress of their work to the UNFF11 Bureau through the Director of the UNFF Secretariat. The Director of the UNFF Secretariat will manage the on-going work of the consultants, having been guided by the Bureau.

Annex 2: Current initiatives that shape global forest policies beyond UNFF

CPF

Efforts to enhance synergy are taking place under the Collaborative Partnership on Forests (CPF).³⁵ This body was established in April 2001 as successor to the Interagency Task Force on Forests (ITFF) that served the post-Rio forest negotiations between 1995 and 2000 of the IPF and IFF, the precursors of the UNFF. The CPF role is to support the work of the Forum and to enhance cooperation and coordination among its participants. The CPF has been chaired by FAO since its creation. Nonetheless, there are no rules of procedure for the CPF that establish that FAO chairs the group.

Nonetheless, for many, the CPF is considered to be a coordination network with a lot of potential that is not put to use to the extent possible.

Forests in the ‘Rio Conventions’

Despite the fact that the Rio UNCED of 1992 did not produce a binding global forest convention, the three conventions that were approved at Rio 1992 are linked to forests in some way. The CBD is concerned with forests as a habitat for wild fauna and flora. The UNFCCC regime recognizes the role of forests in adapting to the effects of climate change and reducing vulnerability, as well as the role of forests in mitigating climate change through their function as sinks and through reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation (now REDD+). The UNCCD recognizes the role of forests in preventing desertification and droughts. Thus, each convention recognizes a specific subset of forest services that contribute to the achievement of the specific objectives of the respective convention. For details see summary in the main text of this document.

International Tropical Timber Agreement (ITTA, 2006)

The International Tropical Timber Agreement (ITTA) 2006 is the third iteration of the only binding international agreement specifically covering any of the world’s forests. The ITTA regulates the work of the International Tropical Timber Organization (ITTO), which in 2011 comprises a total of 60 member states.³⁶ Although the ITTA has the specific objective of promoting the sustainable management of forests, it covers only tropical timber-producing forests and then only in the context of also promoting ‘the expansion and diversification of international trade in tropical timber from sustainably managed and legally harvested forests.’ Its main limitations are thus clear, although its output is more substantive than that of some other intergovernmental bodies that undertake forest policy work at the international level. An important asset of the ITTO is that it funds specific projects as well as helping to build capacity through the multiple levels of evaluation and monitoring and review that each project must undergo. A new Thematic Programmes Sub-account under the ITTA 2006 holds the potential for increasing funding as well and using it more efficiently. It should be noted that funding through the ITTO already goes to numerous projects that are not directly related to tropical timber-producing forests and not only located in tropical timber producer countries. As of mid-2011, the new ITTA 2006 entered into force in 2013. However, it needs to be noted that ITTO is suffering from dwindling funding for its programmatic and project work. This poses the risk that producer members might lose their interest and the ITTO could become a marginalized organization.

National Forest Programmes (NFPs)

³⁵ For the 14 members of the CPF, see Annex 2. The UNFF Secretariat supports the work of the CPF. For more information see www.fao.org/forestry/cpf/en/

³⁶ On the objectives and work programme of ITTO see: www.itto.or.jp.

National Forest Programmes (NFPs) are the core instrument of forest policy and governance at the national level, created following the elaboration of the 1992 Forest Principles, shortly after the Rio Conference. The IPF-IFF-UNFF continuum, through its proposals for action and resolutions, has played an important role in providing policy guidance for the evolution and further development of NFPs. The history of NFPs reflects the move from traditional governance to governance by networks. Governments engaged in international forest policy processes are encouraged to apply NFPs and thus to cooperate with other sectors within national policy networks in order to achieve the objective of SFM. The goal of NFPs is the sustainable management, conservation and sustainable development of a country's forests so as to cope with the local, national, regional and global needs and demands of present and future generations. The accomplishment of this goal is usually challenged by a series of issues which vary from country to country, such as, *inter alia*, planned or unplanned land use change, illegal logging, and the need to maintain or enhance the provision of ecosystem services.

The main instruments for the formulation and implementation of NFPs are:

- participation of the relevant actors in the policy making process;
- adaptive and iterative learning processes to develop the sector;
- comprehensive ('holistic') and inter-sectoral coordination of actors to internalize externalities;
- decentralization in order to facilitate the implementation of policy outputs.

The preparation and implementation of NFPs were supported by two initiatives, the so-called NFP Facility, coordinated by FAO (today replaced since 2012 by the so-called Forest and Farm Facility), and the Programme on Forests (PROFOR), which is coordinated by the World Bank. While the NFP Facility supported capacity building and consultation processes in more than 60 countries, PROFOR deals with the preparation of analytical work that strengthen NFP processes in a few selected countries. Though the basic idea of NFPs is to provide an integrated approach to SFM at the national level, many barriers remain with regard to effective implementation of and participation in NFP processes. Problems include, *inter alia*, the issue of accessibility to the process for all interested parties as well as the need to develop all organizations and procedures necessary for negotiating NFPs, particularly decision rules, in every country desiring such a programme. Empirical experience has shown that participation in a NFP process can be time and resource consuming and actors who are well endowed with resources are likely to be favoured. In federal states the varied division of forest-related affairs (e. g., forestry, nature conservation, agriculture) between national and sub-national responsibilities can be another reason for lack of effective implementation of NFPs. Recently, both the NFP Facility and PROFOR have been faced with an increasing reluctance of donors to continuously fund the broader forestry approach in favour of other initiatives and programmes targeted more specifically to REDD+ (e.g. Forest Carbon Partnership Facility, Forest Investment Programme, UN-REDD and others).

FLEG and Regional Global Ministerial Conferences

In three regional processes (South-East Asia, 2001; Africa, 2003 and Northern Asia and Central Asia, 2006), governments within their respective regions negotiated voluntary ministerial declarations that address issues related to forest crime at the regional and national levels. Promoted by the World Bank, the processes include the preparation and implementation of regional and national action plans as follow-up activities. A FLEG process in Central America is ongoing and another one is in negotiation for Tropical South America. Thanks to the considerable convening power of the World Bank, the process of developing the ministerial declarations was quite successful. Nonetheless, the process faces obstacles in the preparation and implementation of meaningful action plans.

FLEGT, VPA and EU-TR

In addition to the FLEG initiative, the European Union adopted the Action Plan for Forest Law Enforcement, Governance and Trade (FLEGT) in 2004, with the ultimate goals of significantly reducing

the trade and use of illegally harvested timber and promoting the use of legally harvested timber in the European Union. The underlying rationale is to enshrine SFM and the rule of law in timber-exporting developing and emerging market countries. The EU accomplishes these ambitious goals through Voluntary Partnership Agreements (VPAs) between the EU and timber-producing countries where illegal logging is a problem. As of the beginning of 2011, several such VPAs are in place. Such Partnerships take account institutional frameworks, such as forest-related regulations, governance issues, land tenure rights, the nature of the international timber trade, current forest sector initiatives, and the capacity to implement agreements. An important part of FLEGT is the establishment of a licensing scheme to ensure that only timber products produced in accordance with the national legislation of the exporting country are imported into the EU. The outcome of FLEGT greatly depends on the readiness of timber-exporting countries to ratify VPAs; thus non-partner countries will be unaffected. In October 2010, the European Union adopted the EU Timber Regulation (EU-TR) Regulation 995/2010) to prevent sales of illegal timber and timber products on the EU internal market. From 3 March 2013, any operator who places timber or timber products on the EU market for the first time must ensure that they have been legally produced.

REDD+ Partnership

The REDD+ Partnership was initiated as a way to implement the “fast-track funding” pledges made within the context of the so-called Copenhagen Accord reached among a group of countries at UNFCCC COP-15 in December 2009. It serves as an interim platform for its partner countries to scale up actions and finance for initiatives to reduce emissions from deforestation and forest degradation (REDD+) in developing countries. In June 2011, 73 countries are “Partners”. The core objective of the Partnership is to contribute to the global battle against climate change by serving as an interim platform for the Partners to scale up REDD+ actions and finance, and to that end to take immediate action, including improving the effectiveness, efficiency, transparency and coordination of REDD+ initiatives and financial instruments in order to facilitate, among other things, knowledge transfer, capacity enhancement, mitigation actions and technology development and transfer. The work program for 2011-12 (reconfirmed for 2013-2014) includes facilitating (i) readiness activities, (ii) demonstration activities, (iii) results-based actions and (iv) the scaling up of finance and actions; as well as (v) promoting transparency.

Global Mountain Platform: Chapter 13 of Agenda 21 and the Mountain Partnership

“Managing fragile ecosystems: sustainable mountain development” is the title of the Chapter that was devoted to mountains under Agenda 21 of UNCED 1992. Endorsing this chapter at the highest political level clearly and formally signaled its common concern for the world's mountains as essential preserves of natural and human resources, which need to be protected, restored and developed.

The fact that no global treaty has been created for mountain ecosystems is partly due to the existence of numerous conventions which, though not dealing directly with mountains as such, do have some bearing on mountains. In addition to the mountain-related provisions in UNCCD, CBD and UNFCCC amongst others, there are some general principles of international environmental law which are applicable to mountain ecosystems. One is the obligation of states to manage their natural resources so as not to “cause damage to the environment of other States or of areas beyond the limits of national jurisdiction”. (Principle 2 of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development).

The Regional Mountain-specific Accord: **The Alpine Convention** is the only legally binding instrument in existence that specifically deals with a mountain range: the Convention on the Protection of the Alps, adopted in 1991. Nine parties had ratified the Convention by 1999.

The Mountain Partnership is a United Nations voluntary alliance of partners dedicated to improving the lives of mountain people and protecting mountain environments around the world. The Mountain Partnership addresses the challenges facing mountain regions by tapping the wealth and diversity of

resources, knowledge, information and expertise, from and between its members, in order to stimulate concrete initiatives at all levels that will ensure improved quality of life and environments in the world's mountain regions. Currently, 53 governments, 13 intergovernmental organizations and 158 Major Groups (e.g. civil society, NGOs and the private sector) are members.

Regional level Organisations and Initiatives³⁷

There are a considerable number of regional level intergovernmental instruments, agreements, initiatives and processes that need to be taken into account when analysing the IAFs (see also table 2). A number of important processes are briefly listed here, without being inclusive. Listed by mega region, the following regional processes are of relevance:

Africa

- **AFF:** The African Forest Forum (AFF), hosted in the World Agroforestry Centre (ICRAF) in Nairobi, is an association of individuals with a commitment to the sustainable management, use and conservation of Africa's forest and tree resources. The mission of AFF is to contribute to the improvement of the livelihoods of the people of Africa and the environment they live in through sustainable management and use of tree and forest resources on the African continent. AFF aims at creating a voice for African forestry stakeholders based on science and experience, to advocate for the importance of forests. AFF provides independent analysis and advice to national, regional and international institutions and actors, on how economic, food security and environmental issues can be addressed through sustainable forest and tree management.
- **COMESA:** The Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA) is a regional economic treaty established in 1993 amongst 20 countries. COMESA has a forest management strategy that outlines key investments in the forest sector, such as payments for environmental services, combating illegal trade and capturing the full value of forest sectors in national economies.
- **COMIFAC:** The basis of COMIFAC (the Central African Forest Commission) is the Yaoundé Declaration on the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Tropical Forests, which was signed in 1999 in Yaoundé, Cameroon, by the Central African heads of state. The scope of both the Yaoundé Declaration and COMIFAC is the conservation and sustainable management of forests in Central Africa. COMIFAC is a functional regional treaty that shapes forest development in the Congo Basin through a Convergence plan adopted in 2005.
- **SADC.** The South-African Development Community is a regional treaty signed by 15 member states. Its forest related work is guided by a Forestry Protocol of 2002, with the objective to “promote the development, conservation, sustainable management and utilization of all types of forests and trees; promote trade in forest products throughout the Region in order to alleviate poverty and generate economic opportunities for the peoples of the Region; and achieve effective protection of the environment, and safeguard the interests of both the present and future generations”.

Tropical Americas

- **ACT.** The Treaty for Amazonian Cooperation was agreed in 1978 by eight South American states as a legally binding framework for cooperation regarding economic development and environmental protection in the Amazon Basin. To administer the Treaty's provisions, the Amazon Cooperation Treaty Organization (ACTO, *OTCA: Organización del Tratado de Cooperación Amazónica*) was

³⁷ Compiled mainly from websites of the respective process/organisation and Wildburger (in Rayner et al 2009).

established in 1995 under an amendment protocol to the ACT. Forestry is embedded under a working line on *Conservation and sustainable use of renewable resources* that promotes the sustainable use of Amazonian forest services and products and discourages unsustainable patterns. The Treaty lays down a guiding framework for the management of Amazonian forests and for forest-related cooperation in inter-institutional networks. The member countries also agreed on a set of regional Criteria and Indicators for sustainable forest management under the so-called the Tarapoto Process.

- **CAN:** The Andean Community (*Comunidad Andina*, CAN) is a customs union comprising the South American countries of Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador, and Peru. Through collaboration with IICA, CAN supports a knowledge sharing program for the sustainable management of Andean forests.
- **CCAD:** The Regional Convention for the Management and Conservation of Natural Forest Ecosystems and Development of Forestry Plantations (the ‘Central American Forest Convention’) was agreed in 1993. It was one of the first treaties focusing specifically on forests and comprises six signatory states in Central America. The Convention established the *Central American Council for Forests and Protected Areas* as an advisory body of the Central American Commission on Environment and Development (CCAD), a subsidiary body of the Central American Integration System. The Convention is responsible for the implementation of CCAD policies and strategies on the sustainable use of forest resources and the conservation of biological diversity. It works under several strategic implementation mechanisms and action plans related to cooperation on forests in the subregion.

Asia-Pacific

- **ASEAN.** The Association of Southeast Asian Nations was established in 1967 and comprises 10 member states as well a number of additional associated states. Forest-related tools are mostly developed in the framework of the ASEAN Economic Community under the guidance of the *ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Agriculture and Forestry* (AMAF). The basic objective of ASEAN cooperation forestry is to formulate and implement regional cooperation activities to enhance the international competitiveness of ASEAN’s forestry products, as well as to further strengthen joint positions in international fora. AMAF identified priority areas, which are documented in the *Ministerial Understanding on ASEAN Cooperation in Food, Agriculture and Forestry and its program on food security and climate change*. Decision-making bodies related to forests include the ASEAN Senior Officials on Forestry (ASOF), and the ASEAN Expert Group on International Forest Policy Processes, which is concerned with links to global processes. Guided by AMAF, the ASOF is responsible for policy coordination, supported by expert groups and particular development processes, such as the ASEAN Social Forestry Network.
- **APEC.** The Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation was established in 1989 as an intergovernmental forum for facilitating economic cooperation amongst the countries in the Asia-Pacific region. It has 21 member states. The Sydney APEC Leaders’ Declaration on Climate Change, Energy Security and Clean Development refers to the role of forests in the carbon cycle and addresses afforestation, reforestation, deforestation, forest degradation, SFM and illegal logging. It sets the goal of increasing forest cover in the APEC region by 20 million hectares by 2020 and establishes the Asia Pacific Network on Sustainable Forest Management and Rehabilitation.

Europe

- **Forest Europe** is the short name for the Ministerial Conference on the Protection of Forests in Europe is the main intergovernmental policy process dealing with forests in the pan-European

region. It was initiated in 1990 and covers all aspects of SFM in Europe. Forty-six European countries, including Russia and the European Community are signatories. Forest Europe is governed by periodic ministerial conferences. Since 1990, *more than 20 resolutions* have been adopted at six ministerial conferences. Through FOREST EUROPE commitments, the concept of SFM has been defined for Europe and continuously developed at the pan-European level. The resolutions cover a wide range of economic, ecological and social aspects related to forests and their management, translates relevant global commitments for the European region, and serves as a framework for implementing SFM in European countries. In the latest FOREST EUROPE Ministerial Conference on the Protection of Forests in Europe in June 2011 in Oslo the ministers responsible for forests adopted European 2020 Targets for the protection and sustainable management of forests. They also took a historical decision and launched negotiations on a Legally Binding Agreement on Forests in Europe.

- ***INC-Forest.*** Based on the decision of the Forest Ministers in Europe at the 6th meeting of Forest Europe in 2011, to elaborate a legally binding agreement on forests in Europe, an Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee (INC) was established with the mandate to develop such an agreement. The work of the INC is governed by the Oslo Mandate and the Rules of Procedure. The recent, fifth Session of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee for a Legally Binding Agreement on Forests in Europe (INC-Forests5) was in November 2013 in Geneva, Switzerland, at the premises of the International Conference Center of Geneva. The Draft negotiating text can be downloaded at <http://www.forestnegotiations.org/INC/INC4/reports>.
- ***COFFI.*** The UNECE Committee on Forests and the Forest Industry (COFFI) with Secretariat in Geneva has a mandate in Europe, the Commonwealth of Independent States and North America (“UNECE region”). COFFI serves as a trusted source of information, data and analysis about the forest sector in the UNECE region for more than 60 years. It also provides a forum for policy discussion about major issues that affect the forest sector. The section is unique in that it is a joint UNECE/FAO secretariat, servicing the UNECE Committee on Forests and the Forest Industry and the FAO European Forestry Commission. It operates to a mandate agreed by the 56 countries, stretching from Canada, USA, and Europe to the Russian Federation and Central Asia. Its priorities and activities are presented in a Strategic Plan. Working with FAO, the COFFI plays a role in the regular assessment of the state of forests in the pan-European region and contributes to the periodic Global Forest Resources Assessment. In addition, the section’s work with Forest Europe allows a regular critical assessment of the health and sustainability of Europe’s forests. The Section’s work compiling market for forest products throughout the region, feeds into the prestigious Forest Products Annual Market Review, which appears every autumn.

**Annex 3: Organisations with a mandate on forestry, and their link to the IAF
[initial list, with potential to be completed]**

Organization/Initiative/Institution	CPF Member	Forest or multi-sectoral	Political or technical	Work Field	Global or Regional outreach	National outreach	Link to UNFF
Multilateral Agencies with focus or working areas on forests							
ADB – Asian Development Bank	-	M	T	M T E	+	++	+
AfDB - African Development Bank	-	M	T	M T	+	++	+
CBD – Convention on Biological Diversity (Sect.)	yes	F	P	E	+++	+	++
Convention on Migratory Species	-	M	T	E	++	++	-
CITES – Convention on Trade Endangered Species	-	F/M	P	T	++	++	-
FAO-FD- FAO Forest Department	yes	M	T	M T E	+++	++	+++
IDB – Inter-American Development Bank	-	M	T	M T E	++	++	+
ITTO – International Tropical Timber Organization	yes	F	T	M T	++	++	+++
GEF – Global Environmental Facility	yes	F/M	T	M E	++	+	+++
ILO – International Labour Organization	-	M	P	T	+	+	+
OECD - Org. for Economic Devt and Cooperation	-	M	P	E	++	+	-
RAMSAR – Convention on Wetlands	-	M	P/T	M	+	++	-
UNCCD - Convention to Combat Desertification	yes	F	P	E	++	+	++
UNDP - United Nations Development Programme	yes	M	P	E	++	+	+
UNEP - United Nations Environment Programme	yes	F/M	P	M E	++	+	++
UNFCCC – Convention Climate Change Secr.	yes	M	P	E	+++	++	++
UNECE - Committee on Forests and the Forest Industry	-	F	P	T	+++	+	++
World Bank Group (IDA, IDRB, IFC)	yes	M	T	M T E	+++	++	+++
Regional Initiatives with links to forestry							
AFF – African Forestry Forum	-	F	T	M T E	++	+	+
AFN – Asia Forestry Network	-	F	P	M T	+	-	+
ASEAN – Association of South-East Asian Nations	-	M	P	T E	++	+	-
ASFN – ASEAN Social Forestry Network	-	F	T	M E	+	+	-
Amazon Treaty (OCTA)	-	F	P	M T	++	+	+
AU – African Union	-	M	P	E	+	+	-
CAN – Comunidad Andina	-	M	P	M T E	+	-	-
Carpathian Convention	-	M	P	E	+	+	-
CCAD – Com. Centroamerica de Ambiente y Desarrollo	-	M	P	T	+	+	+
COMESA - Common Market East & South. Africa	-	M	P	M	+	++	-
COMIFAC – Forest Commission Centr. Africa	-	F	P	M T	+++	++	+
ECOWAS – Economic Community of W. Afri. S.	.	M	P	T	++	+	+
FORNESSA – For. Research Netw for Subsaharan Africa	-	F	T	M	+	+	-
Forest Europe	-	F	P	T E	+	+	+
INBAR	-	M	M	T	+	+	-
LFCCs Secretariat- Low Forest Cover Countries	-	F	P	E	++	+	+
SARC-South Asia Regional Cooperation /CF	-	M	P	E	+	+	-
SADC- Southern African Development Community	-	M	P	T E	++	+	-
Research/Specialist Institutions with focus on forestry							

Biodiversity International	-	F/M	T	E	+	+	-
CATIE – Centro Agronomico Trop. Invest. & Ens.	-	F/M	T	M E	++	++	-
CIFOR - Centre for Intern. Forestry Research	yes	F	T	M T E	+++	+	+++
CILSS – Intergov. Perm. Com. to Drought Sahel	-	M	T	M	++	++	+
EFI – European Forestry Institute	-	F	T	M T	++	++	+
FSC - Forest Stewardship Council	-	F	T	M T	+++	+	-
Forest Trends	-	F	T	T E	+	+	-
ICIMOD – Intern. C. for Integrated Mountain Dev.	-	M	T	E	+	-	-
ICRAF – The World Agro-Forestry Centre	yes	F/M	T	M E	+++	++	++
IIED – Intern. Institute for Environ. & Development	-	F	T	T E	+	+	-
IISD - Intern. Institute for Sustainable Developm.	-	F/M	T	E	+	+	-
IUCN – The World Conservation Union	yes	F	T	M T E	++	++	+
IUFRO – Int. Union of Forestry Research Org.	yes	F	T	M	+	+	+
MFF – Mangroves for the Future	-						
PEFC – Pan-European Forest Certification	-	F	T	M T	++	+	-
RECOFTC – The Centre for People & Forests	-	F	T	M	++	++	+
RRG – Rights and Resources Group/Initiative	-	F	T	E	+	+	-
WRI – World Resources Institute	-	F	T	E	+	+	-
Thematic Initiatives on forests							
ETFAG – European Trop. Forestry Advisory Group	-	F	P	M T	+	+	+
FLEG	-	F	P	T	++	++	-
FLEG-T	-	F	P	T	++	+++	+
FCPF – Forest Carbon Partnership Facility	-	F	T	M E	++	+++	-
FIP – Forest Investment Programme	-	F	T	M E	+	+	-
TFD – The Forest Dialogue	-	F	T	M T E	+	+	-
IPC – International Poplar Commission	-	F	T	M	+	+	+++
Model Forest Network	-	F	T	M	++	++	+
Mountain Partnership	-	M	T	M	+	+	+++
NFP - National Forest Programme Facility	-	F	T	M T	+++	+++	+++
PROFOR	-	F	T	M T E	++	+	++
REDD+ Partnership	-	F	P	E	+++	-	-
GFP - Global Forest Partnership	-	F	T	M T E	+	-	-
Global Forest Landscape Restoration Initiative	-	F	T	M	++	+	-
Silva Mediterranean	-	F	T	M	+	+	+++
WCMC – World Conservation Monitoring Centre	-	F	T	E	+	+	-
UN-REDD	-	F	T	M E	+++	++	+++
Global/Regional Environmental NGOs/Civil Society Organisation with focus on forests							
ASOCAFOR	-	F	T	M	-	+	-
Birdlife International	-	F	T	M	+	+	-
CARE	-	M	T	M	++	++	-
COICA	-	M	P	E	++	+	-
CI - Conservation International	-	F	T	M E	+	++	-
FERN -	-	F	T	E	+	-	-
FFI – Fauna and Flora International	-	F	T	M	+	++	-
Forests Peoples Programme	-	F	T	E	+	+	-
Friends of the Earth	-	F	T	E	+	+	-

Global Witness	-	M	P	E	++	-	-
Greenpeace	-	M	P	E	+++	+	-
Rainforest Alliance	-	F	P	E	++	+	-
Red Interamericano de Bosques	-	F	T	M	+	+	-
STP- Society for Threatened Peoples	-	M	P	E	+	-	-
TNC – The Nature Conservancy	-	F	T	M E	+	++	-
TRAFFIC	-	F	T	T	+	+	-
Transparency International	-	M	P	E	++	-	-
NTFP-EP – Non-Timber-Forest-Products-Exch P.	-	F	T	M T	+	+	-
WCS – Wildlife Conservation Society	-	F	T	M	+	++	-
WWF – World Wide Fund for Nature	-	F/M	T/P	M T E	+++	++	-
Private Sector Associations working on international forestry issues							
ATIBT – Inter-African Forest Industry Association	-	F	T	M T	++	+	-
IPPA – Intern. Pulp and Paper Association	-	F	P	T	+	-	-
TFF- The Tropical Forest Foundation	-	F	T	M	-	+	-
Tropenbos Netherlands	-	F	T	M	-	++	-
TFT - Tropical Forest Trust	-	F	T	M T	-	+	-
WBCSD – World Business Council for SD	-	M	P	T E	++	-	-
ACPWP - Advisory Com. on Paper & Wood Prod.)	-	F	T	T	++	+	-

Legend: Sectoral on forest and environment (F) or multi-sectoral dealing with other sectors (M)

Mainly political (P) or mainly technical (T);

Working field: managing forests (M); products & trade (T); externalities (E)

Global/regional outreach/National outreach: +++ strong; ++ considerable + low; - none

Working link to FAO: +++ close; ++ considerable; + some (to be confirmed during the assessment); - none

Annex 4: Proposed Table of Contents for the Main Consultant Report on the Assessment of the IAF

Table of Contents Draft 24 February 2014

Acronyms		i
Executive Summary		iii-xii
1. BACKGROUND AND RATIONALE OF THE IAF		12
2. IAF ASSESSMENT: PURPOSE AND SCOPE		13
3. IAF ASSESSMENT: METHODOLOGY		14
3.1 Assessment tools	x	
3.2 Quality assurance	x	
3.3 Challenges and limitations to the independent assessment of the IAF	x	
4. GLOBAL FOREST CONTEXT		16
4.1 Forest resource base 2014	x	
4.2 Forest in the UNCED foundation	x	
4.3 Setting forest policy: national, regional and global	x	
4.4 Institutional arrangements of global forest policy	x	
4.5 Resources available for SFM (global, regional, national)	x	
5. ASSESSMENT OF THE INTERNATIONAL ARRANGEMENTS ON FORESTS (IAF)		22
5.1 Global and regional challenges in forestry and the role of the IAF	x	
5.2 Governing arrangements to address global and regional challenges	x	
Strategic Objectives in forestry, NLBI and GoFs		x
Relevance and effectiveness of the IAF for SFM		x
5.3 UNFF and its processes since 2000 (global, regional, national, incl NFPs)		27
Background		x
Modalities of work		x
Key achievements		x
Relevance and Effectivness		x
Impacts and Sustainability.....		x
Summary of findings and conclusions		x
5.4 The Forest Instrument and Global Objectives on Forests		34
Background		x
Key achievements		x
Relevance and Effectivness		x

	Impacts and Sustainability.....	X
	Summary of findings and conclusions	X
5.5	Institutional Arrangements with particular focus on UNFFS and CPF	43
	Background	X
	Key achievements	X
	Relevance and Effectiveness	X
	Impacts and Sustainability.....	X
	Summary of findings and conclusions	X
5.6	Financing, facilitative process and resources mobilization	51
	Background	X
	Key achievements	X
	Relevance and Effectiveness	X
	Impacts and Sustainability.....	X
	Summary of findings and conclusions	X
5.7	UNFF in the context of MDGs/SDGs and MEAs	57
	Background	X
	Key achievements	X
	Relevance and Effectiveness	X
	Impacts and Sustainability.....	X
	Summary of findings and conclusions	X
6.	OPTIONS FOR THE WAY FORWARD	61
6.1	Priorities, opportunities and key challenges for a future IAF	x
6.2	IAF's capacity to implement its work on forestry	x
	Institutional and working arrangements at global and regional level.....	x
	Links between global, regional and national levels.....	x
	Partnerships with major groups (social, environmental, private sector)	x
6.3	Options for future arrangements on forests	x
	Improved IAF and strengthening of the NLBI.....	x
	Strengthened IAF (considering SDGs, REDD+, FLEGT, GE).....	x
	Institutional approaches (WFO, FAO/ITTO, an IP-BES model?)	x
	Global Forest Convention	x
	Framework Convention with Regional Annexes or/and Thematic Annexes	x
	Protocol on Forests (under one of the MEAs/in support of SDGs)	x

	Innovative approaches	x
	Financing SFM at national, regional and global level	x
7.	CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS	70
	A renewed international forestry regime	x
	<i>Strategic vision and implementation</i>	x
	<i>Financing SFM</i>	x
	<i>Institutional arrangements and partnering</i>	x
8.	THE WAY FORWARD	
	74	
	ANNEXES	76

Pages in the present Table of Contents are indicative.

Annex 5: Overview on Former Assessments of the International Arrangements on Forests

Title	Remarks
<p>McAlpine, J (2013): <i>Progress Towards Implementation of the Forest Instrument and Global Objectives on Forests</i>. PowerPoint presentation at 10th UNFF, Istanbul, Turkey 8 April, 2013. Doc E/CN.18/2013/2 – E/CN.18/2013/Add.1</p>	<p>Draws on national reports and on their basis:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reports on pilots in countries of the forest instrument and influence on national policies and legislation; • Progress report on achievement of each global objective - including increase in SFM funding and diversion of donor attention to carbon/climate change forestry; • Explores forests contribution to MDGs; • Highlights some challenges
<p>Patosaaari. P (2005): <i>The International Arrangement on Forests after UNFF 5</i>. Discussion Points delivered on the occasion of the XXII IUFRO World Congress, Brisbane, Australia 8-13 August 2005.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gets into the debate on legal/non-legally binding agreements – possibility of an incremental approach to getting to legally-binding state; • Draws attention to extra-sectoral origins of many forest challenges; • Comments on plethora of recommendations from IPF/IFF/UNFF and challenge of implementing them
<p>Rayner, J et al (2010): <i>Embracing Complexity: Meeting the Challenges of International Forest Governance</i>. A Global Assessment Report prepared by the Global Forest Expert Panel on the International Forest Regime. IUFRO World Series Vol 28. ISBN 978-3-902762-01-6 / ISSN 1016-3263 [+ Policy Brief of same title]</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Highlights fragmentation in forests governance at all levels. At global level, draws attention to forests under conventions as example of this; • Concentration of forests in very few countries yet search for consensus among all countries; • Extra-sectoral origins of many challenges – future forests agenda needs to attend to this better; • Need for implementation to adjust more to varying capacities and policy preferences; • Need for more learning during implementation.
<p>UNFF, Report of the Secretary-General on the review of the effectiveness of the International Arrangement on Forests (2005)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reviews progress in the implementation of the IPF/IFF proposals for action; • Assesses the effectiveness of the IAF based on country questionnaire responses; • Provides recommendations on how to strengthen the IAF.
<p>UN-DESA (Dec 2005): <i>Review of the Effectiveness of the International Arrangement on Forests</i>. United Nations, New York [with Preface by Pekka Patosaari] <u>MAFA will have distributed electronically to all team members available at:</u> www.un.org/esa/forests/pdf/publications/proposals-for-action.pdf</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Starts at year 2000 so appropriate to the Independent assessment; • Comprehensive - even looks at participation record of countries; raises the issue of proper valuation of forests, which is important for ensuring their visibility in future global development agendas • Draws attention to needs for future: political commitment/vertical links among levels of action from global to local/enabling environments/ build potential of CPF/ improve monitoring, assessment & reporting

Annex 7: Participation in UNFF Workshops, Participation in UNFF Workshops, Country-Led Initiatives, Organization-Led Initiatives, and Ad-Hoc Expert Group meetings

CDO/DA/DFID/GIZ Funded Projects										
Date	Place	Title/Theme	Total Number of participants	Number of participants from Developigng Countries and countries with economies in transition	Number of Funded Participants	Number of Male participants	Number of Female Participants	Number of Major Groups participants	Number of Participants from the CPF	Link to the Report of the
10-12 Oct 2011	Bangkok, Thailand	Strengthening National Reporting in Support of Implementation of the Forest Instrument	22	13	13	20	22	N/A	3	http://www.un.org/esa/forestry/instrument/nairobi_workshop.pdf
13-15 Dec 2011	Nairobi, Kenya	Strengthening National Reporting in Support of Implementation of the Forest Instrument	29	23	23	23	6	N/A	3	http://daccess-dds-ny.un.org/doc/UNDOC/G39/81/PDF/N0153981.pdf?OpenDocument
6-8 February 2012	Accra, Ghana	Strengthening National Reporting in Support of Implementation of the Forest Instrument	41	29	29	36	4	N/A	7	http://www.un.org/esa/forestry/instrument/accra_workshop.pdf

		Instrument								
11-13 April 2012	Beirut, Lebanon	Strengthening National Reporting in Support of Implementation of the Forest Instrument	20	14	14	18	2	N/A	3	http://www.un.org/esa/forest-instrument/Beirut_Workshop.pdf
18-20 Apr 2012	Santiago, Chile	Strengthening National Reporting in Support of Implementation of the Forest Instrument	33	19	19	27	6	N/A	3	http://www.un.org/esa/forest-instrument/Santiago_Workshop_report.pdf http://daccess-dds-ny.un.org/doc/UNDOC/G083/10/PDF/N0438310.pdf?OpenDocument
LFCC/SIDS-Africa/LDCs projects										
12-17 November 2011	Tehran, Iran	First workshop on forest financing in LFCCs	41	31	31	38	3	1	3	http://www.un.org/esa/forest-workshop.html
30 January 2012-3 February 2012	Niamey, Niger	Second Workshop on Forest Financing in Low Forest Cover Countries	42	31	31	31	10	1	5	http://www.un.org/esa/forest-workshop/Niamey-workshop-report.pdf
23 - 27 April, 2012	Port of Spain, Trinidad & Tobago	First Workshop on Forest Financing in SIDS	36	27	30	23	13	3	2	http://esango.un.org/irene.html?page=viewContent&nexttype=8

24th and 25th July,	Nadi, Fiji	Second workshop on forest financing in SIDS	56	41	41	40	16	1	4	
11-13 December 2012	Dakar, Senegal	First workshop on forest financing in Africa and Least Developed Countries	N/A	http://esango.un.org/irene/ml?page=viewContent&type=8						
8 -10 January 2012	Nairobi, Kenya	Second Facilitative Process Workshop on Forest Financing in Africa and Least Developed Countries	24	19	19	18	6	N/A	1	http://www.un.org/esa/forests/forestry/forestry/facilitative-process/Nairobi-workshop-report.pdf

Country-led and organization-led initiatives in support of UNFF

Date	Place	Title/Theme	Total Number of participants	Number of participants from Developing Countries	Number of Funded Participants	Number of Male participants	Number of Female Participants	Number of Major Groups participants	Number of Participants from the CPF	Link to the Report of the Meeting
Country-Led Initiatives (CLIs)										
7 Nov - 1 Dec 2000	Bonn, Germany	CLI in support of UNFF1: International Expert Meeting on "Shaping the Programme of Work for the United Nations Forum on Forests" (organized by Australia, Brazil, Canada, France, Germany, Iran, Malaysia and Nigeria)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	http://www.un.org/es/forests/gov-unff.html
Jan-01	Oslo, Norway	CLI: in support of UNFF1: "International Meeting of Experts on Financing Sustainable Forest Management (Oslo Workshop)"	66	19	N/A	N/A	N/A	6	7	http://www.un.org/es/forests/gov-unff.html
5-8 November 2001 Yokohama, Japan	Yokohama, Japan	CLI in support of UNFF2: International Expert Meeting on Monitoring, Assessment and Reporting on the Progress towards Sustainable Forest Management (organized by Government of Ghana and the Netherlands; organized jointly by the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity and the UNFFS)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	http://www.un.org/es/forests/gov-unff.html

28-30 January 2002	Accra, Ghana	CLI in support of UNFF2: Workshop on Forests and Biological Diversity (organized by Government of Ghana and the Netherlands; organized jointly by the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity and the UNFFS)	N/A	http://www.un.org/es/a/forests/gov-unff.html						
3-5 March 2003	Managua, Nicaragua	CLI in support of UNFF3: Initiative on Transfer of Environmentally Sound Technologies for Mangrove Forests (organized by Government of Nicaragua; Secretariats of the Cartagena (Wider Caribbean) and Antigua (Northeast Pacific) Conventions (UNEP); COCATRAM; UNFF Secretariat; ITTO; FAO; Ramsar Convention on Wetlands)	N/A	http://www.un.org/es/a/forests/gov-unff.html						
17-20 March 2003	Viterbo, Italy	CLI in support of UNFF3: Lessons learned in Monitoring, Assessment and Reporting on implementation of IPF/IFF Proposals for Action (Organized by United States, UK, South Africa, Turkey, Japan, Italy, Brazil, Sweden)	N/A	http://www.un.org/es/a/forests/gov-unff.html						
24-28 March 2003	Wellington, New Zealand	CLI in support of UNFF3: Expert Meeting on the Role of Planted Forests in Sustainable Forest Management (organized by Governments of Australia, Argentina, Canada, Chile, Malaysia, New Zealand, South Africa, Switzerland, UK, USA; and CIFOR, FAO, ICRAF and ITTO)	N/A	http://www.un.org/es/a/forests/gov-unff.html						

9-13 February 2004	Nairobi, Kenya	CLI in support of UNFF4: Swedish Country Led Initiative Workshop on "Lessons Learned on Sustainable Forest Management in Africa" (organized by AFORNET, AAS, KSLA, FAO)	N/A	http://www.un.org/es/a/forests/gov-unff.html						
24-27 February 2004	Congo, Brazzaville	CLI in support of UNFF4: Global Workshop on the Transfer of Environmentally Sound Technologies in support of SFM (organized by Congo- Brazzaville, Brazil, France, Italy, Norway, Senegal, Switzerland, UK, US)	96	65	N/A	91	5	N/A	7	http://www.un.org/es/a/forests/gov-unff.html
27-30 April 2004	Interlake n, Switzerl and	CLI in support of UNFF4: Decentralization, Federal Systems in Forestry and National Forest Programs (nfps) (organized by Governments of Switzerland and Indonesia; UNFF Secretariat, Buwal, SDC, CIFOR, IC, ITTO, PROFOR, CBD, WRI, WWF, FAO)	N/A	http://www.un.org/es/a/forests/gov-unff.html						
18-22 October 2004	Uppsala, Sweden	CLI in support of UNFF5: Workshop on "Lessons Learned on Sustainable Forest Management in Africa and Concluding Workshop	N/A	http://www.un.org/es/a/forests/gov-unff.html						
25-28 January 2005	Guadalaj ara, Mexico	CLI in support of UNFF5: "The Future of the International Arrangement on Forests for UNFF" (organized by Government of Mexico and USA)	200	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	http://www.un.org/es/a/forests/gov-unff.html

18-22 October 2004	Stockholm, Sweden	Country Led Initiative in Support of UNFF: Lessons learned on sustainable forest management in Africa (Concluding workshop): organized by African Forest Research Network (AFORNET), African Academy of Science (AAS), The Royal Swedish Academy of Agriculture and Forestry (KSLA), FAO Forestry Department									
4-8 April 2005	Petropolis, Brazil	Country and Organization Led Initiative in support of UNFF5: Global Initiative on Forest Landscape Restoration (organized by government of UK, IUCN and WWF)	N/A	http://www.un.org/esa/forests/gov-unff.html							
16-18 November 2005	Berlin, Germany	CLI in support of UNFF6: International Expert Meeting on "Scoping for a future agreement on forests" organized by Germany	N/A	http://www.un.org/esa/forests/gov-unff.html							
29 March-1 April 2006	Costa Rica	CLI in support of UNFF5: International Expert Meeting on Innovative Financial Mechanisms: Searching for Viable Alternatives to Secure Basis for the Financial Sustainability of Forests	N/A	http://www.un.org/esa/forests/gov-unff.html							
13-16 February 2007	Nusa Dua, Bali, Indonesia	CLI in support of UNFF7: "Multi-Year Programme of Work of the United Nations Forum on Forests: Charting the Way Forward 2015"	N/A	http://www.un.org/esa/forests/gov-unff.html							
28-30 January 2008	Geneva, Switzerland	CLI in support of UNFF 8: Australian - Swiss Region-Led Initiative (RLI) on regional processes in support of the UN	44	12	N/A	33	11	N/A	3		

		Forum on Forests								
8-11 April 2008	Durban, South Africa	CLI in support of UNFF8: Workshop on Forest Governance and Decentralization in Africa, a South African-Swiss Country- Led Initiative (CLI) in Support of the UN Forum on Forests	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	http://www.un.org/esa/forests/gov-unff.html
3-5 September 2008	Koli, Joensuu, Finland	Forests in the Changing Environment: Pan-European workshop as a regional contribution to the United Nations Forum on Forest (UNFF)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	www.mmm.fi/forests/koli2008
8-12 September 2008	Paramari bo, Suriname	CLI in support of UNFF8: International Dialogue on Financing Sustainable Forest Management; a Country-Led Initiative (CLI) in Support of the United Nations Forum on Forests	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	http://www.un.org/esa/forests/gov-unff.html
17-20 November 2009	Guilin, China	CLI in support of UNFF9: Forest for People: the role of national forest programmes and the Non-legally Binding Instrument on All Types of Forests (organized by Government of the People's Republic of China, in collaboration with Governments of Austria, Finland, and Germany)	N/A, informa tion not availab le in the websit e	N/A, informa tion not available	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Indigenous Peoples, Farmers & Small Forest Landowner s, Youth & Children, Women, Science & Technolog y FAO, ITTO, The GEF, IUFRO	http://www.apfnet.cn/cli/

31 August to 3 September 2010	Oaxaca, Mexico	CLI in support of UNFF9: "Workshop on Forest Governance and REDD+ in Latin America and the Caribbean: A Country-Led Initiative in Support of the UN Forum on Forests" (organized by Governments of Mexico and Switzerland)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	http://www.un.org/esa/forests/gov-unff.html
8 - 10 March, 2011	Tokyo, Japan	CLI in support of UNFF9: The International Seminar on Challenges of Sustainable Forest Management -integrating environmental, social and economic values of forests-	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	http://www.un.org/esa/forests/gov-unff.html
4 - 7 October, 2011	Bonn, Germany	CLI in support of UNFF10: Contributions of Forests to a Green Economy -Exchange ideas and experiences concerning the roles of forests and sustainable forest management for developing a Green Economy							http://www.un.org/esa/forests/gov-unff.html
10-13 January 2012	Hanoi, Viet Nam	CLI in support of UNFF10: A pathway to a green economy in the context of sustainable development: Focus on the role of markets in the promotion of sustainable forest management (organized by Viet Nam, Finland and the Netherlands)	103	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	http://www.un.org/esa/forests/gov-unff.html
11-14 September 2012	Lviv, Ukraine	CLI in support of UNFF10: The Lviv Forum on Forests in a Green Economy: Actions and Challenges for the Countries of Eastern Europe and Northern and Central Asia. (organized by Ukraine and Switzerland)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	http://www.un.org/esa/forests/gov-unff.html

Organization-Led Initiatives (OLIs) and Major Group-Led Initiatives (MGIs)

16-18 February 2004	Accra, Ghana	Regional Workshop on Implementation of IPF/IFF proposals for action (organized by FAO African Forestry and Wildlife Commission (AFWC))	N/A	http://www.un.org/esa/forests/gov-unff.html						
1-10 August 2004	Kilimanjaro, Tanzania	CLI in support of UNFF4: Gender and Forestry: Challenges to Sustainable Livelihoods and Forestry Management/Second World Wide Symposium on Gender and Forestry (organized by Gender and Research Forestry Management (IUFRO), IUFRO-SPDC, CIFOR, ENVIROCARE, , University of Dar-es-Salaam, Kokoine University, Morogoro, College of African Wildlife Management, Hedmark University College)	N/A	http://www.un.org/esa/forests/gov-unff.html						
6-10 December 2004	San Jose, Costa Rica	OLI in support of UNFF5: Expert Meeting on Traditional Forest-related Knowledge and the Implementation of Related International Commitments (Organized by International Alliance of Indigenous and Tribal Peoples of the Tropical Forests)	N/A	http://www.un.org/esa/forests/gov-unff.html						
7-10 March 2005	Hong Kong, China	OLI in support of UNFF5: Practical Solutions to Combat Illegal Logging: Dialoge on Best Practice for Business and Civil Society (organized by Yale University and Forest Dialogue)	N/A	http://www.un.org/esa/forests/gov-unff.html						

018-22 March 2013	Rio, Brazil	MGI in support of UNFF10: Intensifying major groups involvement in the implementation of UNFF decisions (organized by UNFF major group focal points with Support from Germany, ITTO and UNFFS)	N/A	http://www.un.org/esa/forests/gov-unff.html						
19 - 21 September, 2012	Rome, Italy	CPF Organization Led Initiative (OLI) on forest financing in support of the United Nations Forum on Forests.	150	70	31	110	40	6	13	http://www.un.org/esa/forests/gov-unff.html
Ad hoc Expert Group (AHEG) meetings										
8-12 December 2003	Geneva, Switzerland	Ad hoc expert group on Approaches and Mechanisms for Monitoring, Assessment and Reporting	N/A	http://www.un.org/esa/forests/adhoc-finance.html						
15 -19 December 2003	Geneva, Switzerland	Ad hoc expert group on finance and transfer of environmentally sound technologies		43	18	32	11	6	3	http://daccess-dds-ny.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N04/238/88/PDF/N0423888.pdf?OpenElement
7-10 September 2004	New York, USA	AHEG: United Nations Forum on Forests Ad hoc Expert Group Meeting on consideration with a view to recommending the parameters of a mandate for developing a legal framework on all types of forests	158	17	53		25	19	15	
11-15 December 2006	UNHQ, New York	AHEG: UNFF Ah-Hoc Expert Group on Non-Legally Binding Instrument	276	144	54	194	72	31	12	http://daccess-dds-ny.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N06/685/58/PDF/N0668558.pdf?OpenElement

10-14 November 2008	UNOV, Vienna, Austria	AHEG: UNFF Ad-Hoc Expert Group to develop proposals for the development of a voluntary global financial mechanism/portfolio approach/forest financing framework	125	68	47	103	22	7	5	http://www.un.org/esa/forests/adhoc-SFMfinance.html
26-30 July 2010	Accra, Ghana	MGI in support of UNFF9: Applying Sustainable Forest Management to Poverty Reduction: Strengthening the Multi-Stakeholder Approach within the UNFF	N/A	http://www.un.org/esa/forests/gov-unff.html						
13-17 September 2010	Nairobi, Kenya	AHEG: Open-ended Intergovernmental Ad Hoc Expert Group on Forest Financing	125	84	48	100	25	7	8	http://www.un.org/esa/forests/pdf/aheg/aheg1/aheg_report.pdf
14-18 January, 2013	Vienna, Austria	AHEG: Open-ended Intergovernmental Ad Hoc Expert Group on Forest Financing	151	69	52	120	31	5	5	http://www.un.org/esa/forests/pdf/session_documents/unff10/AHEG2.pdf
CPF meetings										
25-27 February 2003	Cambri dge, UK	2nd meeting of the CPF- on Forest Task Force on Harmonizing and Streamlining Forest related Reporting (Organized by CPF members)								
28-29 August 2006	Rome, Italy	CPF Meeting	N/A	http://www.un.org/esa/forests/gov-unff.html						
08-Dec- 07	Bali, Indones ia	Forest Day: Shaping the Global Agenda for Forests and Climate Change	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A		www.cifor.cgiar.org
06-Dec- 08	Poznan, Poland	Forest Day 2, a UNFCCC COP 14 Parallel Event: Shaping the Global Agenda for Forests and Climate C.	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A		www.cifor.cgiar.org

Annex 8: Official documents and decisions of the CPF member organizations with reference to UNFF and Forest Instrument since 2005

Number of official documents, decisions, and paragraphs with reference to UNFF and Forest Instrument since 2005					
		# of documents	# of decisions	# of paragraphs*	Total (# of documents, decisions, and paragraphs combined)
1	FAO	5	14	16	35
2	CBD	4	9	21	34
3	UNCCD	1	1	1	3
4	UNFCCC	2	2	2	6
5	GEF**	2	2	3	7
6	ITTO	8	9	10	27
	Total	22	37	53	112
* # of paragraphs include sub-paragraphs.					
** For GEF, documents include those issued since 2002.					
*** The number of decisions and paragraphs include those contained in the annex.					

Annex 9: List of official documents with reference to UNFF and FI

	Session/Document	Area of decision	Paragraph on UNFF and/or FI
FAO (2005-)	Report of the 21st Session of the Committee on Forestry (C 2013/25) (24-28 September 2012) http://www.fao.org/docrep/meeting/027/me955e.pdf	IV. State of the World's Forests 2012	11. The Committee invited the United Nations Forum on Forests (UNFF) to consider the findings of SOFO 2012 at its 10th Session on Forests and Economic Development in 2013. 15. The Committee invited FAO to: support further efforts in preparation for the 10th Session of the UNFF in Istanbul, Turkey, in 2013.

		VII. Follow-up on the Recommendations of the 20th Session of COFO	50. The Committee requested FAO to work in close collaboration with member countries and relevant organizations to prepare a set of voluntary guidelines on national forest monitoring, which takes into account the requirements for REDD+ reporting and is in line with the principles and goals of the Forest Instrument.
Report of the 20th Session of the Committee on Forestry (C 2011/18 (CL 140/4))(4-8 October 2010) http://www.fao.org/docrep/meeting/021/ma685e.pdf		Global Forest Resources Assessment: the way forward	13. The Committee invited the governing bodies of the CPF member organizations to consider the information and analysis provided by FRA in their work and invited the United Nations Forum on Forests to use the results of FRA 2010 and FRA 2015 as a tool for measuring progress towards sustainable forest management.
		Emerging Opportunities and Challenges in Forest Finance and Forest Governance	30. The Committee further requested FAO to collaborate with the members of the CPF on forest financing and to support the work of the United Nations Forum on Forests (UNFF) Ad Hoc Expert Group (AHEG) on forest financing.
		Communicating the Role of Forests in Sustainable Development – The International Year of Forests (2011)	46. The Committee further recommended that countries and FAO increase the visibility of forests and sustainable forest management in sustainable development at the global level and also invited other international organizations to do so by: highlighting forests' contributions to the global developmental agenda at the 9th session of the UNFF and in the preparations for the Rio+20 Earth Summit on Environment and Development;

<p>Report of the 19th Session of the Committee on Forestry (C 2009/17) (16-20 March 2009)</p> <p>ftp://ftp.fao.org/docrep/fao/meeting/017/k5897e.pdf</p>	<p>ANNEX A: FAO Strategy for Forests and Forestry</p>	<p>The FAO Strategy for Forests and Forestry supports the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals, the FAO Goals for Members, and the Global Objectives on Forests agreed by the United Nations Forum on Forests (UNFF). It also contributes to the implementation of the international agreements, in particular the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) and the Non-Legally Binding Instrument on All Types of Forests adopted by UNFF and subsequently by the United Nations General Assembly</p>
	<p>Annex</p>	<p>The FAO Strategy for Forestry is developed within the broader framework of: UNFF Global Objectives on Forests...</p>
<p>Report of the 18th Session of the Committee on Forestry (COFO 2007/REP)(13-16 March 2007)</p> <p>ftp://ftp.fao.org/docrep/fao/meeting/012/j9643e.pdf</p>	<p>Progressing towards Sustainable Forest Management</p>	<p>42. The Committee requested FAO, in collaboration with Members and partner organizations, to develop, promote and implement management tools to bridge the gap between policy and actions at all levels with emphasis on inter-sectoral and landscape approaches. This would help to improve sustainable forest management and to achieve the four Global Objectives on Forests agreed by the United Nations Forum on Forests at its Sixth Session, and to mainstream forestry within efforts to eradicate extreme poverty and hunger, achieve sustainable water and land use, mitigate climate change and to achieve the Millennium Development Goals.</p>
	<p>Decisions and Recommendations of FAO Bodies of Interest to the Committee</p>	<p>53. The Committee also emphasized the role of the regional forestry commissions and processes in providing a link to the international dialogue of the Committee and of the United Nations Forum on Forests.</p>

		Shaping an Action Programme for FAO in Forestry	<p>57. The Committee welcomed FAO's intention to review its strategic plan for forestry by the 19th Session of COFO (March 2009). The Committee stressed the importance of the outcome of the 34th Session of the FAO Conference, the Seventh Session of the United Nations Forum on Forests, the Independent External Evaluation of FAO and general UN Reform and requested the Forestry Department to take note of these developments in the proposed strategic review. It recommended that the regional forestry commissions be involved in the review and that FAO should provide opportunities for Members, the private sector, and civil society to contribute.</p>
	Report of the 17th Session of the Committee on Forestry (COFO 2005/REP) (15-19 March 2005) http://www.fao.org/docrep/meeting/009/j5015e.htm	Opening of the Session	<p>58. The Committee acknowledged the assistance that FAO provides to policy development at all levels in its support to the United Nations Forum on Forests, through the non-legally binding instrument on all types of forests and the UNFF's multi-year programme of work when adopted, to the Collaborative Partnership on Forests, and to national forest programmes or other forest strategies. The Committee also recognized FAO's technical excellence in the areas of capacity building and knowledge management.</p> <p>6. The Committee recommended that FAO should inform the fifth session of the United Nations Forum on Forests of the outcome of the Ministerial Meeting on Forests held on 14 March 2005 and of the 17th Session of the Committee.</p>
		Regional Forestry Commissions in Action	<p>16. The Committee recommended that the Regional Forestry Commissions continue to facilitate country implementation of the proposals for action of the Intergovernmental Panel on Forests (IPF) and the Intergovernmental Forum on Forests (IFF) and to provide information on developments in the international dialogue on forests. The role of the Regional Forestry Commissions in this regard was considered particularly valuable for smaller countries unable to participate in all global fora related to forests.</p>

		Needs and Opportunities for International Cooperation in Forest Fire Preparedness	35. The Committee also recommended that FAO should inform the fifth session of the United Nations Forum on Forests of the importance attached by the Ministerial Meeting on Forests and by the 17th Session of the Committee to international cooperation on forest fire management.
		The Role of Forests in Contributing to the Millennium Development Goals	45. The Committee noted the strong linkage between development goals and the Intergovernmental Panel on Forests (IPF) and the Intergovernmental Forum on Forests (IFF) proposals for action to achieve sustainable forest management.
CBD (2005-)	COP 11 Decision (UNEP/CBD/COP/11/35) (5 December 2012) http://www.cbd.int/decisions/cop/?m=cop-11	XI/6.Cooperation with other conventions, international organizations, and initiatives	C.Collaboration on biodiversity and agriculture, forest biodiversity, and biodiversity and health 24.Welcomes the collaboration between the Convention on Biological Diversity and the United Nations Forum on Forests in the context of the memorandum of understanding between their secretariats, noting that forests are home to a significant part of global biodiversity, and reiterates the value of the ongoing work of the Executive Secretary as a full partner in the collaborative partnership on forests and noting that insufficient funds were available for the implementation of requested targeted joint activities between the two secretariats, in particular for capacity-building, reiterates its invitation in decision X/36 to countries in a position to do so to provide funding;
	COP 10 Decision (UNEP/CBD/COP/DEC/X) (29 October 2010)	X/20.Cooperation with other conventions and international organizations and initiatives	15.Welcomes the Memorandum of Understanding with the United Nations Forum on Forests, including in the context of joint activities in the International Year of Forests, 2011;

http://www.cbd.int/decisions/cop/?m=cop-10	X/32.Sustainable use of biodiversity	4.Requests the Executive Secretary to: (b)Compile information on how to improve sustainable use of biodiversity in a landscape perspective, including on sectoral policies, international guidelines, and best practices for sustainable agriculture and forestry, including a review of relevant criteria and indicators, and report on the results to the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice at a meeting prior to the eleventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties. This work should be carried out in collaboration with relevant organizations, including but not limited to: the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and its Committees on Forestry and on Agriculture, the Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture, the secretariat of the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture, the United Nations Forum on Forests, the Wildlife Trade Monitoring Network (TRAFFIC), the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), and the members of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests;
	X/33.Biodiversity and climate change	9.Requests the Executive Secretary to: (g)With regard to reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation and the role of conservation, sustainable management of forests and enhancement of forest carbon stocks in developing countries, collaborate with the secretariat of the United Nations Forum on Forests, the Facility Management Team of the Forest Carbon Partnership Facility and the Climate Investment Funds Administrative Unit of the World Bank, the secretariat of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, the secretariat of the United Nations Collaborative Programme on Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation in Developing Countries, and the other members of Collaborative Partnership on Forests, as well as the Low Forest Cover Countries secretariat and in collaboration with Parties through their national focal points for the Convention on Biological Diversity to provide advice, for approval by the Conference of the Parties at its eleventh meeting, including on the application of relevant safeguards for

			<p>biodiversity, without pre-empting any future decisions taken under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, based on effective consultation with Parties and their views, and with the participation of indigenous and local communities, so that actions are consistent with the objectives of the Convention on Biological Diversity and avoid negative impacts on and enhance benefits for biodiversity;</p>
		X/36.Forest biodiversity	<p>Cooperation with the United Nations Forum on Forests (UNFF) and the International Tropical Timber Organization (ITTO) and the Low Forest Cover Countries (LFCC) Secretariat</p> <p>1. Welcomes resolution 8/1 of the United Nations Forum on Forests on forests in a changing environment, enhanced cooperation and cross-sectoral policy and programme coordination, regional and subregional inputs; and also welcomes opportunities for collaboration in celebrating the International Year of Forests in 2011;</p> <p>2. Welcomes and supports the Memorandum of Understanding between the secretariats of the Convention on Biological Diversity and the United Nations Forum on Forests signed on 15 December 2009, which, inter alia, aims to identify, develop and implement targeted joint</p>

			<p>activities.</p> <p>Targeted joint activities between the secretariats of the Convention on Biological Diversity and the United Nations Forum on Forests (UNFF)</p> <p>5. Requests the Executive Secretary based on priorities identified in its decision IX/5 and taking into account recent developments, in particular resolution 8/1 of the United Nations Forum on Forests, to identify and implement, in consultation with the Director of the United Nations Forum on Forests, targeted joint activities between the secretariats of the Convention on Biological Diversity and the United Nations Forum on Forests to support Parties, in particular developing countries, in the implementation of the expanded programme of work on forest biological diversity and the non-legally binding instrument on all types of forests, including through...</p>
	<p>COP 9 Decision (UNEP/CBD/COP/DEC) (9 October 2008)</p> <p>http://www.cbd.int/decisions/cop/?m=cop-09</p>	<p>IX/5. Forest biodiversity</p>	<p>3. Requests the Executive Secretary to:</p> <p>(a) Facilitate, as requested, in close cooperation with existing international, regional and subregional processes, initiatives and organizations, such as the Secretariat of the United Nations Forum on Forests, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the International Tropical Timber Organization, and other members of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests, regional, subregional and/or thematic workshops to support Parties in implementing the programme of work on forest biodiversity;</p> <p>(c) Enhance dissemination and exchange of information, and collaboration between the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity, the Secretariat of the United Nations Forum on Forests and other members of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests and other relevant organizations and processes;</p>

			(d) Explore, together with the Director of the Secretariat of the United Nations Forum on Forests, possibilities for developing a work plan with targeted joint activities between the secretariats of the Convention on Biological Diversity and the United Nations Forum on Forests by identifying commonalities and complementarities of the respective work programmes and submit the results for the consideration of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice;
		IX/16 Biodiversity and climate change	Annex II INDICATIVE LIST OF ACTIVITIES BY PARTIES TO PROMOTE SYNERGIES AMONG THE RIO CONVENTIONS Forests and climate change 14. Involve focal points from the United Nations Forum on Forests and relevant forest related and other conventions in discussions on relevant issues, such as, reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation, as well as through afforestation and reforestation, and, the in-depth review of implementation of the programme of work on forest biodiversity and other relevant issues.
	COP 8 Decision (UNEP/CBD/COP/DEC/VIII/19) (15 June 2006) http://www.cbd.int/decisions/cop/?m=cop-08	VIII/15 Framework for monitoring implementation of the achievement of the 2010 target and integration of targets into the thematic programmes of work	Global outcome-oriented targets for the expanded programme of work on forest biological diversity 18. Invites the members of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests to – in addition to the four global objectives on forests of the United Nations Forum on Forests, agreed at its sixth session - take note of the global outcome-oriented targets for the expanded programme of work on forest biological diversity;

	VIII/19. Forest biological diversity: implementation of the programme of work		<p>A. Consideration of matters arising from the implementation of paragraph 19 of decision VI/22 Mindful that many fora and organizations, including the United Nations Forum on Forests (UNFF), the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the World Bank and other members of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests, as well as regional forest-related processes have information on sustainable forest management and national forest programmes, including on forest law enforcement and related trade and cross-sectoral integration</p>
	4. Requests		<p>B. Requests the Executive Secretary to:</p> <p>(a) Strengthen collaboration on issues regarding the promotion of sustainable forest management, including, as appropriate, forest law enforcement, governance and related trade, with the UNFF, the International Tropical Timber Organization (ITTO), the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the Center for International Forestry Research (CIFOR), the World Bank, other members of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests, and regional forest-related processes in order to complement and contribute to ongoing</p>

			<p>processes and initiatives, as appropriate, with a view to improving the implementation of relevant activities of the expanded programme of work on forest biological diversity</p> <p>C. Develop in collaboration with stakeholders an account of the work of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the United Nations Forum on Forests (UNFF), relevant members of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests, relevant regional forest-related processes such as the Ministerial Conference on the Protection of Forests in Europe (MCPFE), the Montreal Process, and COMIFAC (Commission des Forêts d'Afrique Centrale), a toolkit on cross-sectoral, integrated approaches making best use of already existing instruments, notably national forest programmes, to reduce negative impacts and enhance positive impacts of other sectoral policies on forest biological diversity, for consideration of SBSTTA at its thirteenth meeting, and to disseminate it through electronic and non-electronic means;</p> <p>D. Other matters Noting the outcomes derived from the sixth session of the United Nations Forum on Forests as a positive step towards achieving sustainable forest management,</p> <p>Welcoming in particular, the four shared Global</p>

			<p>Objectives on Forests agreed at the sixth session of the United Nations Forum on Forests, where Parties committed to work globally and nationally and to make progress toward their achievement by 2015, and noting that the implementation of the expanded programme of work on forest biological diversity will contribute toward the achievement of these 4 global objectives.</p> <p>Annex: Annex PROPOSAL ON THE REVIEW OF IMPLEMENTATION OF THE EXPANDED PROGRAMME OF WORK ON FOREST BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY</p> <p>A. Sources of information</p> <p>(b) Other forest-related information in the form of national reports previously submitted to the Convention on Biological Diversity, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the International Tropical Timber Agreement (but only for countries members of the International Tropical Timber Organization (ITTO)), the United Nations Forum on Forests (UNFF), the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD), and the United Nations Framework on Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), that can be accessed at the Collaborative Partnership on Forest's Joint Information Framework for Forest-Related Reporting web site and regional criteria and indicators.</p> <p>g) Review of implementation by non-governmental</p>

			<p>organizations dealing with indigenous and local communities (e.g., Global Forest Coalition review of the forest-related clauses in the Convention; Forest People's Programme on indigenous people's experiences of biodiversity conservation activities funded by the Global Environment Facility (GEF); reports to the United Nations Forum on Forests; summary Report of the Expert Meeting on Traditional Forest-Related Knowledge and the Implementation of Relations...</p> <p>(i) International/global/regional forest assessments, including the FAO Forest Resources Assessment and Yearbook of Forest Products, the FAO State of the World's Forests reports, the FAO regional outlook studies, the FAO national forest programme updates, the ITTO annual review and assessment of the world timber situation, the ITTO upcoming review on the status of sustainable forest management, review by the United Nations Forum on Forests of progress made on the proposals for action put forward by the Intergovernmental Panel on Forests (IPF)/Intergovernmental Forum on Forests (IFF), assessment reports under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)/Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment, the second Global Biodiversity Outlook, and the reports of the Ministerial Conference for the Protection of Forests in Europe (MCPFE) on the state of Europe's forests and sustainable forest management in Europe.</p>
UNCCD (2005-)	<p>Decision 12/COP.7 (ICCD/COP(7)/16/Add.1) (25 November 2005)</p> <p>http://www.unccd.int/Lists/OfficialDocuments/cop7/16add1eng.pdf</p>	<p>Activities for the promotion and strengthening of relationships with other relevant conventions and relevant international organizations, institutions and agencies</p>	<p>Noting further the efforts of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests to foster cooperative initiatives in support of the United Nations Forum on Forest</p>

UNFCCC (2005-)	Decision 4/CP.15 (FCCC/CP/2009/11/Add.1) http://unfccc.int/resource/docs/2009/cop15/eng/11a01.pdf	Methodological guidance for activities relating to reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation and the role of conservation, sustainable management of forests and enhancement of forest stocks in developing countries	Recognizing the importance of promoting sustainable management of forests and co-benefits, including biodiversity, that may complement the aims and objectives of national forest programmes and relevant international conventions and agreements
	Decision 2/CP.13 (FCCC/CP/2007/6/Add.1) http://unfccc.int/resource/docs/2007/cop13/eng/06a01.pdf	Reducing emissions from deforestation in developing countries: approaches to stimulate action ANNEX, Indicative guidance	Demonstration activities should be consistent with sustainable forest management, noting, inter alia, the relevant provisions of the United Nations Forum on Forests, the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification and the Convention on Biological Diversity.
GEF (2002-)	Joint Summary of the Chairs C.23 GEF/C.23/JointSummary (May 27, 2004) http://www.thegef.org/gef/sites/thegef.org/files/documents/GEF.C.23.JointSummaryENG.pdf	Institutional Relations	65. It was recommended that in the regional workshops and guidelines under development for OP15, information should be provided on forest management activities. It was also recommended that FAO and the UNFF should be invited, as appropriate, to contribute to the work of the GEF task force on land degradation. 68. The GEF was encouraged to continue its participation in the deliberations of the CSD, the UN Forum on Forests and the International Meeting for the ten year review of the Barbados Program of Action for the Sustainable Development of the Small Island Developing States to be convened in Mauritius in early 2005. The Council recognized the important contribution that the GEF can make to the work of these processes in presenting information and lessons learned emanating from its on-the-ground activities aimed at integrating global environmental issues and national priorities for sustainable development.
	Joint Summary of the Chairs C.22 GEF/C.22/Misc/6 (November 25, 2003) http://www.thegef.org/gef/sites/thegef.org/files/documents/GEF.C.22.Misc_6.pdf	Relations with Conventions	33. It was noted that the types of projects highlight by the UN Forum on Forests for possible GEF consideration were examples of projects that would address synergies among the conventions.

ITTO (2005-)	48th Session (ITTC(XLVIII)) (10 November 2012) http://www.itto.int/sessions_detail/contents_type=627	Decision 2(XLVIII) ITTO BIENNIAL WORK PROGRAMME FOR THE YEARS 2013-2014	ANNEX BIENNIAL WORK PROGRAMME FOR 2013-2014 STRATEGIC PRIORITY 6: BUILD AND DEVELOP HUMAN RESOURCE CAPACITY TO IMPLEMENT SFM AND INCREASE TRADE IN FOREST GOODS AND SERVICES FROM SUSTAINABLY MANAGED FORESTS 28. Continue to provide for ITTO's cooperation and consultation with the Collaborative Partnership on Forests (CPF) in support of the United Nations Forum on Forests (UNFF) and other relevant international and regional organizations, institutions and initiatives. [ITTA, 2006 , Article 15][ITTC Decision 78XXX]
		DECISION 3(XLVIII) ITTO STRATEGIC ACTION PLAN 2013-2018	ITTO cooperates closely with other international organizations with forest-related mandates and was a founding member of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests (CPF), which was established in 2000 to support the work of the United Nations Forum on Forests (UNFF) and to enhance coordination among the international conventions, organizations and institutions with forest-related mandates. ITTO also cooperates with a wide range of regional and national-level organizations and civil-society and private-sector stakeholders. Annex III provides a list of organizations with which ITTO has formed partnerships.

	<p>47th Session (ITTC(XLVII)/17) (19 November 2011)</p> <p>http://www.itto.int/sessions_detail/contents_type=615</p>	<p>DECISION 2(XLVII) ITTO BIENNIAL WORK PROGRAMME FOR THE YEARS 2012-2013</p>	<p>ANNEX BIENNIAL WORK PROGRAMME FOR THE YEARS 2012-2013 CORE/COUNCIL ACTIVITIES</p> <p>6. Continue to provide for ITTO's cooperation and consultation with the Collaborative Partnership on Forests (CPF) in support of the United Nations Forum on Forests (UNFF) and other relevant international and regional organizations, institutions and initiatives. [ITTA, 2006, Article 15] [ITTC Decision 7(XXX)] [ITTO Action Plan 2008-2011, Cross-Cutting Action (o)]</p>
	<p>46th Session (ITTC(XLVI)/18)(18 December 2010)</p> <p>http://www.itto.int/sessions_detail/contents_type=595</p>	<p>DECISION 3(XLVI) THE INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF FORESTS, 2011 AND THE 25th ANNIVERSARY OF ITTO</p>	<p>Annex Indicative list of activities to be undertaken during 2011 for the IYF and ITTO's 25th Anniversary</p> <p>Side-events and participation at UNFF9, UNFCCC COP 17, Forest Day 5 and other important forest fora</p> <p>Co-sponsoring UNFF-led conference on community forests and income generation</p> <p>Co-sponsoring other selected UNFF-led initiatives such as forest film festival, forest art exhibition, etc.</p> <p>Preparation of a public service announcement for airing in relevant media (in collaboration with UNFF and other CPF partners)</p>

	<p>45th Session (ITTC(XLV)/18 Rev.1) (16 November 2009)</p> <p>http://www.itto.int/sessions_detail/contents_type=592</p>	<p>DECISION 2(XLV) ITTO BIENNIAL WORK PROGRAMME FOR THE YEARS 2010-2011</p>	<p>ANNEX BIENNIAL WORK PROGRAMME FOR THE YEARS 2010-2011 ACTIVITY</p> <p>5. Continue to provide for ITTO's cooperation and consultation with the Collaborative Partnership on Forests (CPF) and support for the United Nations Forum on Forests (UNFF) and other relevant international and regional organizations, institutions and initiatives. [IIT A, 1994, Article 14J [IIT A, 2006, Article 15J [IITC Decision 7(XXX)J [IITO Action Plan 2008-2011, Cross-Cutting Action (o)]</p>
	<p>44th Session (ITTC(XLIV)/30) (8 November 2008)</p>	<p>DECISION 10(XLIV) THEMATIC PROGRAMME PROFILES</p>	<p>ANNEX 1</p> <p>THEMATIC PROGRAMME ON FOREST LAW ENFORCEMENT, GOVERNANCE AND TRADE</p> <p>Programme Profile</p> <p>ANTICIPATED OUTPUTS/OUTCOMES</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Policies and programmes to improve forest law enforcement and governance, contributing to the implementation of international objectives as agreed in the ITTA, UNFF, FAO, CITES, CBD and UNFCCC, as well as relevant partnership arrangements;

	<p>43rd Session (ITTC(XLIII)/15) (10 November 2007)</p>	<p>DECISION 2(XLIII) ITTO BIENNIAL WORK PROGRAMME FOR THE YEARS 2008-2009</p>	<p>. Request the Executive Director to implement and/or facilitate the implementation of activities in the approved Work Programme for the years 2008-2009, including the following:</p> <p>(vi) Continue to promote improvement in forest law enforcement. [ITTC Decision 6(XXXI)] [Yokohama Action Plan 3.2, Goal 1(1)]</p> <p>(c) Support the Workshop on Forest Governance and Decentralization in Africa, to be convened within the framework of the United Nations Forum on Forests in Durban, South Africa, in April 2008. The Workshop will provide a platform for bringing and sharing lessons from other international and national processes.</p> <p>(xv) Continue to provide for ITTO's cooperation and consultation with the Collaborative Partnership on Forests (CPF) and support for the United Nations Forum on Forests (UNFF) and other relevant international and regional organizations, institutions and initiatives. [ITTA, 1994, Article 14] [ITTC Decision 7(XXX)] [Yokohama Action Plan 2(b) & 2(c)]</p> <p>(a) Second a senior official to the UNFF Secretariat in the biennium and regularly review the effectiveness of this secondment.</p> <p>(b) Strengthen ITTO's role in UNFF discussions to improve global financing for forests by co-sponsoring an international expert meeting on forest financing to be convened in 2008 as a UNFF country-led initiative in preparation for UNFF8.</p> <p>(c) Continue to support ITTO participation and contribution to the IUFRO-led CPF initiative "Global Forest Information Service (GFIS)".</p>
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	<p>United Nations Conference for the Negotiation of a Successor Agreement to the International Tropical Timber Agreement , 1994 Fourth part Geneva, 16- 27 January 2006 Agenda item 7</p> <p>TD/TIMBER.3/12</p>	<p>INTERNATIONAL TROPICAL TIMBER AGREEMENT , 2006</p>	<p>Preamble (c) Further recalling the Johannesburg Declaration and Plan of Implementation as adopted by the World Summit on Sustainable Development in September 2002, the United Nations Forum on Forests established in October 2000 and the associated creation of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests, of which the International Tropical Timber Organization is a member, as well as the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development, the Non-Legally Binding Authoritative Statement of Principles for a Global Consensus on the Management, Conservation and Sustainable Development of All Types of Forests, and the relevant Chapters of Agenda 21 as adopted by the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development in June 1992, the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, the United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity and the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification</p>
	<p>39th Session (ITTC(XXXIX)/12) (12 November 2005)</p>	<p>DECISION 2(XXXIX) ITTO BIENNIAL WORK PROGRAMME FOR THE YEARS 2006-2007</p>	<p>2. Request the Executive Director to implement and/or facilitate the implementation of activities approved in the Biennial Work Programme for the years 2006-2007, including the following:</p> <p>(iv) Continue to provide for ITTO's cooperation with the Collaborative Partnership on Forests (CPF) and support for the United Nations Forum on Forests (UNFF). [ITTC Decision 7(XXX)] [ITTO Yokohama Action Plan, Section 2, Action c]</p> <p>(a) Strengthen ITTO's participation in and contribution to the CPF, including continuing to second a senior official to the UNFF Secretariat in the biennium, subject to the continuation of the UNFF Secretariat.</p> <p>(b) Support development of a CPF joint questionnaire on forest management.</p> <p>(c) Support ITTO participation and contribution to the IUFRO-led CPF initiative "Global Forest Information Service (GFIS)".</p>
<p>UNEP (2005-)</p>	<p>The UNEP Governing Council/Global Ministerial Environment Forum has not made a reference to UNFF/FI since 2005.</p>		

UNDP (2005-)	The UNDP Executive Board has not made a reference to UNFF/FI since 2005, including in their corporate Strategic Plans for 2008-11 and 2014-17.
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List of key programme/strategy documents with reference to UNFF and FI			
	Document	Area of decision	Paragraph on UNFF and/or FI
ITTO	ITTO STRATEGIC ACTION PLAN 2013-2018 http://www.itto.int/files/user/pdf/publications/ENGLISH_ACTION_PLAN_2013_2018.pdf		3. Policy and Project Work ITTO cooperates closely with other international organizations with forest-related mandates and was a founding member of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests (CPF), which was established in 2000 to support the work of the United Nations Forum on Forests (UNFF) and to enhance coordination among the international conventions, organizations and institutions with forest-related mandates.
	ITTO ACTION PLAN 2008–2011 http://www.itto.int/files/user/pdf/publications/Policy%20Developments/PS-18-E.pdf		PART I: CONTEXT Policy and project work ITTO cooperates closely with other international organizations with forest-related mandates. It is a founding member of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests (CPF), which was established in 2000 to support the work of the United Nations Forum on Forests (UNFF) and to enhance coordination among the international conventions, organizations and institutions with forest-related mandates. Recent global developments International forest-related institutions have responded to this increased attention in many ways. Annex I canvasses activities in the UNFF (including the adoption of the Non-legally Binding Instrument on All Types of Forests –NLBI), FAO, the UNFCCC, CITES, CIFOR, Global Forest Partnerships, and UN-REDD. It also looks at two new funding mechanisms with relevance to forests: the World Bank’s Forest Investment Fund and Forest Carbon Partnership Facility.

			<p>PART II: ACTIONS 2008–2011</p> <p>Cross-cutting actions</p> <p>International cooperation</p> <p>o. Contribute to the work of the CPF, UNFF and the global environmental conventions to further the shared objective of promoting SFM</p>
			<p>Annex 1: Important developments in the international forestry framework</p> <p>United Nations Forum on Forests (UNFF)</p> <p>At its 6th session in 2006, the UNFF decided on four Global Objectives on Forests:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Reverse the loss of forest cover worldwide through SFM, including protection, restoration, afforestation and reforestation, and increase efforts to prevent forest degradation. 2. Enhance forest-based economic, social and environmental benefits, including by improving the livelihoods of forest-dependent people. 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. 4. Reverse the decline in official development assistance for SFM and mobilize significantly increased new and additional financial resources from all sources for the implementation of SFM.

		<p>At its 7th session, the UNFF agreed on a Non-Legally Binding Instrument on All Types of Forests (NLBI), which was subsequently adopted by the UN General Assembly in December 2007. Among other things, the NLBI reiterates the importance of curbing deforestation and enhancing SFM, as described in Global Objective 1.</p> <p>All four of the NLBI's objectives are fully compatible with the ITTA, 2006. The objectives of the ITTA, 2006 pertain particularly on Global Objective 3 but also relate substantially to objectives 1, 2 and 4. ITTO, with its proven track record and its mandate to promote the expansion and diversification of international trade in tropical timber from sustainably managed and legally harvested forests and the sustainable management of tropical timber producing forests, can play a valuable and significant role in international efforts to assist countries to achieve the UNFF's global objectives on forests.</p> <p>ITTO is a founding member of the CPF, which was established in April 2001 to support the work of the UNFF. A major task of the CPF is to contribute to the implementation of the NLBI and the associated Multi-year Programme of Work. Through the implementation of this Action Plan, ITTO will assist the UNFF in monitoring, assessing and reporting on progress towards the achievement of the management, conservation and sustainable development of all types of forests. ITTO is also the CPF's focal agency for trade and for C&I</p>
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FAO, UNDP, UNEP	<p>The UN-REDD Programme Strategy 2011 – 2015</p> <p>http://www.un-redd.org/PublicationsResources/tabid/587/Default.aspx</p>		<p>6. Delivering the Programme</p> <p>6.4. Working with partners</p> <p>6.4.1. Relationships with key partners</p> <p>As part of the process of establishing strategic relationships, the UN-REDD Programme will explore collaboration with other multilateral initiatives including the GEF, which has a significant portfolio of sustainable forest management (SFM) projects, and the regional CBFF. At the national level, Brazil’s Amazon Fund can offer valuable lessons on payments for environmental services. In addition, there are many bilateral projects being implemented through governments or NGOs. UNFF is a key player on forest policy and financing for forests. ITTO and UN-REDD Programme are continuing to work together in some country projects. Coordination and collaboration among these institutions and initiatives are essential to reduce transaction costs and improve efficiency.</p>
GEF	<p>GEF5 Focal Area Strategies (2011-2014)</p> <p>http://www.thegef.org/gef/sites/thegef.org/files/documents/document/GEF-5_FOCAL_AREA_STRATEGIES.pdf</p>	Sustainable Forest Management(SFM)/REDD-PLUS Strategy	The strategy addresses the focus of the non-legally binding instrument (NLBI) on all types of forests of the United Nations Forum on Forests (UNFF) which supports international cooperation and national action to reduce deforestation, prevent forest degradation, promote sustainable livelihoods and reduce poverty for all forest-dependent peoples.
		Land Degradation (Desertification and Deforestation) Strategy	The Land Degradation Focal Area (LD FA) directly supports the implementation of the UNCCD, as an operating entity of the Financial Mechanism of the Convention, as well as indirectly the Non-Legally Binding Instrument (NLBI) on all types of forests of UNFF.

	<p>Focal Area Strategies and Strategic Programming for GEF-4 (2007-10)</p> <p>http://www.thegef.org/gef/sites/thegef.org/files/documents/GEF%20Policy_Focal%20Area%20Strategies%20GEF4.pdf</p> <p>GEF-4 Focal Area Strategies</p> <p>http://www.thegef.org/gef/GEF-4_FA_strategies</p>	<p>Sustainable Forest Management Framework Strategy for GEF-4</p>	<p>With its engagement in SFM, the GEF contributes to the achievement of the Global Objectives on Forests as adopted by UNFF, in particular to Global Objective 3.</p>
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