

Country: FINLAND

Date of submission: 29 September 2014

Voluntary National Report to the 11th Session of the United Nations Forum on Forests

Background

The eleventh session of the United Nations Forum on Forests (UNFF11) will be held from 4 to 15 May 2015 in New York. In accordance with the Forum's Multi-Year Program of Work for 2007-2015, the overall theme of UNFF11 is *Forests: progress, challenges and the way forward on the international arrangement on forests (IAF)*. The UNFF11 will, *inter-alia*:

1. Review progress towards the achievement of the Global Objectives on Forests (GOFs) and implementation of the Non-Legally Binding Instrument on All Types of Forests (hereinafter referred to as the "Forest Instrument"), and
2. Review the contribution of forests and the IAF, including the Forest Instrument, to the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).

The submission of national reports by UNFF Member States on the above items will provide a crucial input to the Secretary-General's analytical, consolidated report to UNFF11 on the progress and trends in the above-mentioned areas, as well as to the Forum's deliberation on the future of the IAF.

Pursuant to Resolution 10/1 of the tenth session of the Forum¹, the UNFF Secretariat (UNFFS) in collaboration with the CPF member organizations and in close consultations with countries, revised and streamlined the reporting format. The attached revised format builds on and further simplifies the UNFF10 reporting format. Specifically, the number of questions has been reduced by consolidating previous areas of overlap, and Member States are asked to submit only information that is not currently provided to CPF member organizations, or that is unavailable in other international databases.

The UNFF11 reporting format is presented in two parts. Part I includes questions related to the progress on the implementation of the Forest Instrument, including achievement of the GOFs. Part II includes questions on the contribution of forests and SFM to the achievement of the MDGs.

To the extent possible, the information submitted by countries to the UNFFS will be supplemented with quantitative data, *inter alia*, from the following international data providers:

- FAO, Forest Resources Assessment (FRA)/Collaborative Forest Resources Questionnaire (CRFQ) - FAO, Forest Europe, UNECE, ITTO, Montreal Process and OFAC
- Joint Forest Sector Questionnaire (JFSQ) – FAO, ITTO, UNECE, EUROSTAT
- FAO, State of the World's Forests (SOFO) 2014
- Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) and Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification (PEFC).

¹ Resolution 10/1 of UNFF10 requested the UNFF secretariat (UNFFS) to further streamline the guidelines and format for voluntary national reporting to the eleventh session of the Forum including a technical discussion on reporting methodology with relevant experts of Collaborative Partnership on Forest member organizations, taking into account types of information provided to Collaborative Partnership on Forest member organizations and through criteria and indicators and other regional processes and balanced regional workshops depending on available resources. (United Nations Forum on Forests, Report on the Tenth Session -8 to 19 April 2013, E/2013/42 _E/CN.18/2013/18, Page 6)

Reporting Guidelines and Format

Member States are kindly requested to:

1. Submit their completed national report **electronically (in MS Word) in English, French or Spanish to unff@un.org, by 30 September 2014**, at the latest. Early submissions will greatly facilitate the Secretariat's preparation of the analytical, consolidated Secretary-General's report to UNFF11. Please note that the MS Word file of the reporting format can also be downloaded from the UNFF website at: http://www.un.org/esa/forests/unff11_reporting_template.doc
2. Submit, in a separate electronic file, a scanned version of the official, signed letter conveying their submission from their respective Ministry, or a note verbale from their Permanent Mission to the United Nations in New York.
3. Submit any graphic elements included in their national report, as separate electronic files.
4. Check all boxes that apply to questions that have multiple-choice components. In addition to the "Yes" or "No" answers, countries are encouraged to provide brief descriptive narratives, as this provides context and background. Please also note that space provided for the descriptive information is limited to 250 words per question.

In view of the cross-cutting nature of issues related to forests and sustainable forest management (SFM), respondents are encouraged to consult with experts from relevant national ministries to complete the reporting format, including, for example, the ministries of environment, economic development, finance and agriculture. Respondents are also strongly encouraged to consult with the national focal points for the FAO Forest Resources Assessment (FRA), the Rio Conventions, other CPF member organizations and C&I processes, where applicable.

Please note that the Year 2007 – the year of the adoption of the Forest Instrument (2007), is used as a baseline throughout the document.

All terms used in this document are consistent with the FAO/FRA Working Paper 180 "Terms and Definitions FRA 2015": <http://www.fao.org/docrep/017/ap862e/ap862e00.pdf>

Abbreviations

C&I	Criteria and Indicators processes
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
FLEGT	Forest Law Enforcement, Governance and Trade
FRA	FAO's global Forest Resources Assessment
GOF	Global Objectives on Forests
ITTO	International Tropical Timber Organization
MDGs	Millennium Development Goals
NFP	National Forest Programme
ODA	Official Development Assistance
SIDS	Small Island Developing States
SFM	Sustainable forest management
UN	United Nations
UNFF	United Nations Forum on Forests

General information

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PART I:
Progress on the implementation of the Forest Instrument,
including achievement of the Global Objectives on Forests (GOFs)

1. Since the adoption of the Forest Instrument in 2007, what actions has your government taken to strengthen forest-related policies, legislation, and law enforcement in support of sustainable forest management (SFM)? Please specify:

	New	Amendment of existing
Forest policy	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Forest legislation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
National forest programme	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Forest land tenure	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other actions	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
None	<input type="checkbox"/>	

Please provide further information on these and/or other actions:

Please note that the following actions are **not** due to the Forest Instrument but would have taken place anyway.

Forest policy & National Forest Programme: The Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry conducted a participatory process to prepare the Forest Policy Report 2050 which was endorsed by the Government in February 2014. This is the first report of its kind ever drawn up in Finland. The Parliament discussed the report in May 2014. The memorandum and Parliament opinion drawn up based on the report will be utilized in preparing the Forest Strategy 2025, which will be the next National Forest Programme of Finland. For more information see:

http://www.mmm.fi/en/index/frontpage/forests/forest_policy/strategies_programmes.html

In addition to the NFP-process, the Strategic Programme for the Forest Sector (MSO) started in 2011. The MSO, led by the Ministry of Employment and the Economy, aims at strengthening economic growth, employment and competitiveness by promoting competitiveness and renewal in the forest sector. The MSO increases wood construction, the use of wood, exports in the sector, as well as new business activities in the bioeconomy sector.

Development policy in forest sector: The most important objectives of the Finnish development policy are the elimination of extreme poverty, the strengthening of the position of the poor, and the reduction of inequality. Development co-operation in the forest sector also shares these objectives. Finland's starting point is a rights-based approach to development. Finland's Development Policy Guidelines for the forest sector were renewed in 2013. For more information see:

<http://www.formin.finland.fi/public/default.aspx?contentid=288213&contentlan=2&culture=en-US>

Forest legislation: An extensive package of new forest acts and related decrees has entered into force in the beginning of 2014, as an outcome of the most comprehensive reform process for decades. The package comprises amendments to the Forest Act and Forest Management Associations Act, a new Forest Damages Act, Act on the Placing on the Market of Timber and Timber Products, and parts of the Timber Measurement Act concerning the measuring of energy wood. For more information see:

<http://www.mmm.fi/en/index/frontpage/forests/legislation.html>.

The amendments to the Forest Act increase the freedom of choice of forest owners in managing their own forest property, improve the profitability of forestry and operating conditions of wood-producing industry, and enhance the biodiversity of forests. One important objective in the reform was to have less detailed regulation on the treatment of forests and to clarify the legislation. The most important changes include allowing uneven-aged forest stands, abolition of age and diameter limits in regeneration, more diverse range of tree species, and increase the spectrum of habitats of special importance.

Other actions: Significant changes have taken place in forest related institutions to respond to the diversified new demands of the society and to emphasize wider and more holistic approach to natural resources management.

- The organizational structure of the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry was renewed. Forest-related matters are now dealt within the Natural Resources Department of the ministry.
- The Finnish Forest Centre (FFC) started its operations as a nationwide organisation in the beginning of 2012. The tasks of FFC are promoting forestry and related livelihoods, advising landowners on how to care for and benefit from their forests and the ecosystems therein, collecting and sharing data related to Finland's forests and enforcing forestry legislation.
- The Forestry Development Centre Tapio will be developed into a state-owned limited company by the end of 2014.
- MTT Agrifood Research Finland, the Finnish Forest Research Institute (Metla), the Finnish Game and Fisheries Research Institute (RKTL) and the statistical services of the Information Centre of the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry (Tike) are to be merged under a new entity called Natural Resources Institute Finland as of 1 January 2015. The rationale for establishing the new Natural Resources Institute Finland is to boost natural resources research which is fundamental for building a future for bioeconomy and welfare.
- Restructuring of Metsähallitus (a state enterprise that administers state-owned land and water areas) is underway.

To what extent have these actions been effective in advancing implementation of the Forest Instrument?

	Effective	Partially effective	Not effective	Not in place
Forest policy	<input type="checkbox"/>	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Forest legislation	<input type="checkbox"/>	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
NFP	<input type="checkbox"/>	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Forest land tenures	<input type="checkbox"/>		X	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other actions	<input type="checkbox"/>	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Please provide 2-3 examples of effective actions in support of the Forest Instrument and web-link(s) to relevant document(s):

- 1) **Forest Policy Report 2050:**
http://www.mmm.fi/attachments/metsat/metsapoliittinen_selonteko/oqE5PMLqH/Metsapol_selonteko_netti_eng.pdf
- 2) **Development Policy Guidelines for forest sector:**
<http://formin.finland.fi/doc/KepoMetsalinjaus2013/eng/>
- 3) **Act on the Placing on the Market of Timber and Timber Products:**
<http://www.mavi.fi/en/payments-and-control/control/eutr/Pages/default.aspx>

2. Since 2007, what steps has your government taken to prevent and reduce international trafficking in illegally-harvested forest products such as timber, wildlife and other biological resources?

- ☒ New legislation
- ☒ Improved enforcement of existing legislation
- ☐ Export controls
- ☒ Import controls (Finland is implementing the EU Timber regulation)
- ☐ Bilateral agreements between exporting/importing countries
- ☐ None
- ☒ Other, e.g. public procurement policies, public-private partnerships. Please list below:

Finnish National Procurement Policy for Wood-Based Products was published in 2010. The Policy gives recommendations to public procurement organizations such as The Association of Finnish Local and Regional Authorities, Motiva Ltd (government agency (an in-house unit) which provides companies, public sector and consumers with information and solutions leading to resource efficient and sustainable choices), Hansel Ltd (a state-owned non-profit limited company, which acts as the government's central purchasing body). According to the policy all publicly procured timber products are recommended to be legally procured and from sustainably managed forests.

Please provide 2-3 examples and, if possible, provide web-link(s) to relevant document(s):

Finnish National Procurement Policy for Wood-Based Products:
<http://www.tem.fi/julkaisut?C=98033&xmid=4385> (in Finnish only)

3. Since 2007, what steps has your government taken to raise the importance of forests and SFM in national development plans, poverty reduction strategies or other equivalent plans?

- ☒ Forests/SFM are now included in national development plans/strategies
- ☐ Forests/SFM now have a higher priority in national development plans/strategies
- ☒ The contribution of forests/SFM to poverty eradication, food security, water security, employment is an ongoing subject of discussion
- ☐ Other, please list below:

Forests/SFM have already prior to 2007 been included in national development plans and strategies. Contribution of forests/SFM is an important topic related to employment.

Have these steps resulted in:

- ☒ More Official Development Assistance (ODA) being programmed to SFM-related activities
- ☐ More domestic public resources devoted to SFM-related activities
- ☒ Increased awareness of the importance of forests/SFM to sustainable development
- ☐ Increased awareness of the importance of forests/SFM to poverty eradication
- ☐ Other, please list below:

The annual ODA for SFM-related activities has increased from approximately 20 million USD in 2007 to about 40 million USD in 2013.

Please describe these steps, and, if possible, provide 2-3 examples and web-link(s) to relevant document(s):

- 1) **The Finnish Bioeconomy Strategy:** Forest sector and SFM are crucial elements of the Finnish Bioeconomy Strategy, which was adopted by the Government in 2014. For more information see: <http://www.biotalous.fi/bioeconomy/>
- 2) **Government Report on Natural Resources:** The Government gave a Report on Natural resources to the parliament in 2010. Forests and SFM are crucial elements in the report. For more information see: <http://valtioneuvosto.fi/toiminta/selonteot/selonteot/fi.jsp?oid=313885> (in Finnish only)
- 3) **National Climate and Energy Strategy:** In recent years each Government has prepared a National Climate and Energy Strategy. The latest was prepared in 2013. As a high cover forest country forests and their sustainable management are crucial part of these strategies. For more information see: https://www.tem.fi/en/energy/energy_and_climate_strategy

4. Since 2007, has your government taken measures to strengthen coordination across ministries and departments whose policies have an impact on or may affect forests and SFM?

☒ Yes ☐ No

If Yes, please specify which ministries and/or departments are involved and how effective these measures have been in implementing SFM:

The Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry
The Ministry of the Environment
The Ministry of Employment and the Economy
The Ministry of Education and Culture
The Ministry of Transport and Communications
The Ministry for Foreign Affairs

	Effective	Partially effective	Not effective	Not in place
Agriculture/Rural Development	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Climate Change	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Environment	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mining	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Energy	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Water	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Tourism	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Please provide 2-3 examples of cross-sectoral cooperation and, if possible, web-link(s) to relevant document(s):

In addition to the Forest Policy Report 2050 and the NFP process (see above question 1) the preparation of the following documents are examples for intensive cross-sectoral cooperation:

- 1) **Finland's Rural Development Strategy for 2007–2013:**
http://www.mmm.fi/en/index/frontpage/rural_development/Rural_development_programmes.html
- 2) **Finland's National Plan for Adaptation to Climate Change :**
http://www.mmm.fi/en/index/frontpage/climate_change_energy/adaption.html
- 3) **Government Report on Natural Resources:**
<http://valtioneuvosto.fi/toiminta/selonteot/selonteot/fi.jsp?oid=313885> (in Finnish only)

5. **Does your government's national forest policy/strategy or national forest programme contain time-bound and quantified targets related to the forest area?**

☐ Yes ☒ No

If yes, please list the targets and dates by which they are to be achieved and, if possible, provide web-link(s) to relevant document(s):

Finland is a high forest cover country (73% of the total land area) and consequently no target related to the forest area is considered necessary.

6. **Since 2007, what activities has your government undertaken to reverse the loss of forest cover and/or to enhance the area and quality of forests? Please specify:**

X	Afforestation	1608	ha
X	Reforestation	117640	ha
X	Restoration	38848	ha

Introduction or enforcement of:

- ☐ Existing legislation aimed at reduction of deforestation and/or support afforestation and or reforestation
- ☐ New legislation aimed at reduction of deforestation and/or support of afforestation and/or reforestation
- X** New legislation and actions aimed at conservation and protection of forests
- ☐ Subsidies for forest owners to prepare and implement management plans
- X** Subsidies for forest protection
- ☐ Reduced/deferred taxes for forest land
- X** Low-interest loans for forest activities/management
- ☐ Other, please list below:

Please describe, and, if possible, provide 2-3 examples and web-link(s) to relevant document(s):

- 1) The Forest Biodiversity Programme for Southern Finland (METSO) is being implemented alongside the NPF. The METSO-programme includes activities such as voluntary protection of private forests and restoration activities in public and private forests. For more information see:
http://www.mmm.fi/en/index/frontpage/forests/forest_policy/strategies_programmes/metso.html
- 2) The objectives of the Act on Financing Sustainable Forestry are securing sustainable wood production, maintaining forest biological diversity and promoting forest nature management projects. For more information see:
<http://www.mmm.fi/en/index/frontpage/forests/legislation.html>.

7. What types of mechanisms are currently in place for involving stakeholders in forest/SFM policy formulation, planning and implementation?

- ☒ Roundtables/committees have been established which meet regularly
- ☒ Forest authorities meet with stakeholders on an *ad hoc* basis as issues affecting them arise
- ☐ Other, please list below:

Sámi rights at the moment are ensured by several laws in Finland, eg. the Constitution of Finland, Law of Sámi Parliament 2002, Law of Nature protection 2011, Wilderness Act 1991, Mining Act 2011, Water Act 2011, Act on Metsähallitus 2004, Sámi language act 2003 etc, altogether 122 acts and decrees. To fulfill social obligations in public forests Metsähallitus has developed a wide range of voluntary processes and negotiated agreements on cooperation and forest management models with Sámi parliament, Scolt Sámi village meeting, reindeer herders' cooperatives in the Sámi region as well as Reindeer herders' association.

How effective are these mechanisms in promoting consensus approaches:

	Effective	Partially effective	Not effective	Not in place
Private sector	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Forest workers	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Local communities	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Indigenous communities	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
NGOs	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
General Public	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Please provide 2-3 examples, and, if possible, provide web-link(s) to relevant document(s):

- 1) National and Regional Forest Councils. For more information see:
http://www.mmm.fi/en/index/frontpage/forests/forest_policy/strategies_programmes/kmo2010.html
- 2) National Committee on EU forest matters
- 3) Ylä-Lappi Natural Resources Plan 2012-2021:
<http://julkaisut.metsa.fi/assets/pdf/mt/mt68.pdf>

8. To what extent do local and indigenous communities have tenure or user rights over publicly-owned forests?

- ☐ Completely
- ☒ Partially

- ☐ None
- ☐ Not applicable

Please provide 2-3 examples how local and indigenous communities are benefiting from goods and services produced by forests and, if possible, provide web-link(s) to relevant document(s):

- 1) There is free reindeer herding in public forests in Northern Finland. There are regular negotiations between the Sámi parliament and Metsähallitus concerning all major land use issues in the Sámi area. Akwé: kon guidelines are in practise in all wide scale plans. Sámi language promotion is seen in Metsähallitus as a important part of promoting Sámi culture. Application of Akwé:Kon guidelines in the management and land use plan for the Hammastunturi Wilderness Area: <http://www.paliskunnat.fi/default.aspx?page=Poronhoito>.
- 2) Free public access to all forests (called Everyman's Right; includes both public and private forests; excludes strict nature reserves and military areas) including picking berries and mushrooms. For more information see: [http://www.ym.fi/en-US/Latest_news/Publications/Brochures/Everymans_right\(4484\)](http://www.ym.fi/en-US/Latest_news/Publications/Brochures/Everymans_right(4484))

9. Since 2007, has your government developed or updated financing strategies to achieve SFM (and to implement the Forest Instrument)?

☒ Yes ☐ No

If Yes, what is the timeframe of these strategies?

- ☐ 2-5 years
- ☒ 5-10 years
- ☐ 10-20 years
- ☐ Other, please specify:

These strategies take into account:

- ☒ Domestic public funding
- ☐ Domestic private funding
- ☐ Public international (including ODA and REDD+)
- ☐ External private funding

Please provide 2-3 examples, and, if possible, provide web-link(s) to relevant document(s):

Please note the modified question! The Government has not updated financing strategies to implement the Forest Instrument, but these changes would have taken place anyway to enhance sustainable forest management.

The Act on Financing Sustainable Forestry is updated regularly for each EU funding period (7 years) according to the EU regulations. The purpose of the act is to promote economically, ecologically and socially sustainable forest management. For more information see: <http://www.mmm.fi/en/index/frontpage/forests/legislation.html>.

10. Has your government established one or more systems/mechanisms for payment for ecosystem services (PES) provided by forests?

☒ Yes ☐ No

If Yes, please specify, and, if possible, provide the estimated total value of these payments since 2007:

- | | | | |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----|-------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Watershed protection/water supply | USD | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Carbon storage (including REDD+) | USD | 115 million |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Nature conservation | USD | 295 million |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Other, please list below: | USD | |

Please provide 2-3 examples of PES and, if possible, provide web-link(s) to relevant document(s):

- 1) Finland has contributed to the climate change funding (including REDD+). For more information see: <http://reddplusdatabase.org>
 - 2) The Forest Biodiversity Programme for Southern Finland (METSO) is an example of PES in Finland. For more information see: http://www.mmm.fi/en/index/frontpage/forests/forest_policy/strategies_programmes/metso.html

11. Since 2007, has your government been able to mobilize significantly increased financial resources for the implementation of SFM? If yes, please specify sources:

	2007	2013
<input type="checkbox"/> Domestic public funding	USD	USD
<input type="checkbox"/> Domestic private funding	USD	USD
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public international funding (including ODA and REDD+)	USD 20	USD 40
<input type="checkbox"/> External private funding	USD	USD

If there has been no increase, please describe the main challenges in mobilizing funds:

12. Since 2007, what steps has your government taken to encourage private sector investment in SFM and forests?

- ☒ Policy and legal reforms that encourage greater private investment
- ☒ Financial incentives, such as credit guarantees, tax breaks, employment subsidies etc.
- ☐ Establishment of markets for ecosystem services provided by forests
- ☒ Outreach to the private sector (leaflets, conferences, fairs promoting investment in forests)
- ☒ Development and improvement of infrastructure and other public services related to SFM
- ☐ Other; please list below:

Please provide 2-3 examples, and, if possible, provide web-link(s) to relevant document(s):

- 1) A new Internet portal Metsaan.fi to provide information and services to forest owners and forest managers was launched by the Finnish Forest Centre in 2012. For more information see: www.metsaan.fi.
- 2) The Finnish Bioeconomy Strategy. For more information see: <http://www.biotalous.fi/bioeconomy/>
- 3) Finland's National Forest Programme 2015. For more information see: http://www.mmm.fi/en/index/frontpage/forests/forest_policy/strategies_programmes.html

13. Is your government engaged in international cooperation to promote SFM?

☒ Yes ☐ No

If Yes, please specify with whom:

- ☒ Government
- ☒ Intergovernmental Organization
- ☒ Private sector/philanthropy
- ☒ NGOs
- ☐ Others

Type of cooperation:

- ☒ North-South
- ☐ South-South
- ☒ Technical
- ☒ Financial
- ☐ Others

And specify the areas of cooperation:

- ☒ Forests and climate change
- ☒ Forest biodiversity
- ☐ Valuation of ecosystem services provided by forests
- ☒ Socio-economic issues, including livelihoods
- ☒ Forest degradation and rehabilitation
- ☒ Scientific cooperation
- ☒ Forest monitoring/data collection
- ☒ Technology transfer and capacity development
- ☐ Other, please list below:

Please provide 2-3 examples of international cooperation, and, if possible, web-link(s) to relevant document(s):

Participatory forest management (Laos) (1997-2018)

The Project improves forest governance and environmentally, socially and economically sustainable forest management. It contributes to national efforts to reduce carbon emissions from forests by expanding the national program of Participatory Sustainable Forest Management (PSFM) in Production Forest Areas. It works with the communities and

improves livelihoods in villages. For instance, the villages get a much larger share of logging benefits (as compared to the past) and are also provided alternative livelihoods. The programme strengthens laws and law enforcement, e.g. to reduce illegal logging and timber trade. The population of the Provinces included in the PSFM programme is 575 000.

This is a multi-bi program in which Finland covers technical assistance costs and the World Bank the rest. The contribution by Finland in 2013-2018 is 10 million Euros.

(www.indufor.fi/scaling-participatory-sustainable-forest-management-project-lao-pdr-2013-2018)

Forest, environment and carbon inventories (2009-2014)

In a multi-bi programme through FAO, Finland promotes sustainable use of forest resources and development countries' capacity to collect, analyse and use reliable information on their forest resources. Requirements of carbon assessment and REDD+ implementation (Reduced Deforestation and Forest Degradation) have greatly increased the need for such accurate forest and related information.

The programme has improved capacities in Tanzania, Zambia, Vietnam, Peru and Ecuador. The programme has also established a platform for developing and sharing forest monitoring and assessment related tools and methods, e.g. by increasing availability of free and open source tools for forest data collection, analysis and dissemination. The contribution of Finland is 15.5 million Euros. (www.fao.org/forestry/fma/en, Finland-FAO Forestry Programme)

Please list the key challenges faced by your government in implementing SFM:

In developing partner countries: insufficient capacities of public sector institutions, slow institutional reform, poor governance, insufficient tenure security and user rights, lack of fair distribution of forest-based benefits, poorly developed value chains.

14. Does your country have one or more institutes or centers of excellence engaged in the development and application of scientific, technical and technological innovations for SFM?

☒ Yes ☐ No

If Yes, what areas do these technical/scientific activities focus on:

- ☒ Forest inventory systems
- ☒ Low-impact logging or other harvesting techniques
- ☒ Wood production for energy
- ☒ Wood processing technology
- ☒ Waste reduction and recycling
- ☒ Other, please list below:

Research on new bio-based products
Forests and human well-being

Are these programs directed at:

- ☒ Forest owners
- ☒ Timber companies/forest products industry
- ☒ State agencies

- ☒ Local communities
- ☒ Indigenous communities
- ☒ NGOs
- ☒ General public

Since 2007, has funding for forest-related science and research increased?

☐ Yes ☒ No

Please describe, and, if possible, provide web-link(s) to relevant document(s):

The following institutions and universities are active in development and application of innovations for SFM:

- Metla: <http://www.metla.fi/index-en.html>
- SYKE - Finnish Environment Institute: <http://www.syke.fi/en>
- VTT Technical Research Centre of Finland: <http://www.vtt.fi/?lang=en>
- Aalto University: <http://www.aalto.fi/en/>
- University of Helsinki: <http://www.helsinki.fi/university/>
- University of Eastern Finland: <http://www.uef.fi/en/home>
- University of Lapland: <http://www.ulapland.fi/InEnglish>
- Lappeenranta University of technology: <http://www.lut.fi/web/en/>

15. What actions has your country undertaken to increase public awareness of the important benefits provided by forests?

- ☒ Published broadcasts on TV and/or Radio
- ☒ Published materials, e.g. brochures, pamphlets, leaflets, or/and posters, etc.
- ☒ Meetings with the general public
- ☒ Art events/Exhibitions
- ☒ Activities in support of the International Day of Forests
- ☐ Other

Please provide 2-3 examples, and, if possible, provide web-link(s) to relevant document(s):

The Finnish Forest Association maintains the web-site forest.fi (<http://www.forest.fi/smyforest/foresteng.nsf>), which is targeted to the general public.

Finland's main activity during the International Year of Forests 2011 was the launch of the Metsä puhuu (Forests speak) project (www.metsapuhuu.fi), which is targeted especially to the youth and school children. The project continues till the end of 2014. The objective of the project coordinated by the Finnish Forest Association is to get the youth interested in the forest sector in order to have enough employees in the sector in the future.

The Pilke Science Centre was opened in Rovaniemi (in Northern Finland) in 2011. The exhibition at the Science Centre teaches visitors about sustainable use of the northern forests and about the diverse range of products and commodities connected to the forests.

The Finnish Nature Centre Haltia was opened close to Helsinki (in Southern Finland) in 2013. Haltia is located next to the Nuksio National Park giving an excellent window to the Finnish wilderness.

The Forest Policy Report 2050 was prepared in a participatory manner involving regional meetings and an Internet portal, where the general public could give their views.

16. What sets of criteria and indicators (C&I) for SFM are used in your country:

- ☒ National set of C&I

- ☒ Regional/international set of C&I (e.g. ITTO, Forest Europe, Montreal Process, Tarapoto etc.)
- ☐ Other

Please describe, and, if possible, provide web-link(s) to relevant document(s):

The publication "State of Finland's Forest 2011 - Based on the Criteria and Indicators of Sustainable Forest Management" was published in 2011. For more information see: http://www.mmm.fi/fi/index/julkaisut/julkaisuarkisto/mmm_julkaisut_2011_5a.html

Are these C&I used to:

- ☒ Generate information to national reports on forest conditions and management
- ☒ Monitor and assess and monitor forest conditions and management
- ☐ Review and develop national forest policies and tools for SFM
- ☒ Communicate with society and carry out dialogue with stakeholders
- ☒ Report on forests to regional and international organizations If so, which ones:

Mainly to FOREST EUROPE, to some extent to FAO/FRA and other forest related international organisations.

17. Has your country translated the Forest Instrument into another language (not including the official UN languages: Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish)?

The Forest Instrument was translated and published in Finnish in 2009. The translation was widely distributed to stakeholders.

18. Please give examples of your country's success stories and lessons learned related to the implementation of the Forest Instrument, including contributions towards the four Global Objectives on Forests:

GOF1: Preparation and implementation of Finland's Development Policy Guidelines for forest sector contribute to the achievement of the GOF1.

GOF2: Preparation and implementation of Finland's National Forest Programme 2015, Strategic Programme for the Forest Sector, Government Report on Forest Policy 2050 and Finland's Bioeconomy Strategy contribute to the achievement of GOF2.

Other success stories related to GOF2 are, *inter alia*, the research programme "Wellbeing from Forests 2008-2012" by Metla (<http://www.metla.fi/ohjelma/hyv/index-en.htm>), and the METSO project "Diverse and health-restoring forest nature - Three operation models for Health Forests".

The research programme led by Metla looked for means to utilise forests in diversified ways so that forests will serve the needs of the individual and our changing society in a comprehensive manner. The aim of the multidisciplinary research programme was, in particular, to incorporate touristic and recreational use of forests into other forms of utilisation by producing information on: integration of different forest uses; economic values and benefits of forest recreation and tourism; demand and development trends of forest recreation and tourism; social and cultural values of forests; and, operational environment of nature entrepreneurship and the development of new products and services.

The aim of METSO the project is to plan and implement new, innovative health-restoring services in three different forest biotopes, and to enhance collaboration with new partners. User interviews and questionnaires will be carried out to find out which are the forest

characteristics that best improve the perceived psychological wellbeing. As a result, preliminary set of criteria for health-restoring forest nature is created and tested. In addition, new operations models are developed to increase the possibilities of private and public sectors to apply health-restoring services in their businesses and to commit to conservation of forest biodiversity.

GOF3: The area of protected forest area is continuously increasing, e.g. in year 2005 forest area within protected areas was 3.86 million ha and in year 2014 3.93 million ha (representing 12.9% of the total land area) . Forest certification has improved the implementation of sustainable forest management. Some 95% of Finland's commercial forests are certified according to the PEFC Finland certification system and some 2% according to the FSC certification system. The FSC certification standard for Finland was approved in 2011 and the forest management requirements for the PEFC certification in Finland have been revised already many times.

GOF4: The annual ODA for SFM-related activities has increased from 20 million USD in 2007 to approximately 40 million USD in 2013.

PART II

Contribution of forests and SFM to achievement of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs)

The aim of Part II of this reporting questionnaire is to learn how forests and SFM have contributed to achieving the MDGs in your country, particularly with respect to poverty and hunger eradication (MDG1), environmental sustainability (MDG7) and developing a global partnership for development (MDG8).

19. How have forests/SFM contributed to eradicating extreme poverty and hunger (MDG1) in your country?

Please rate the scale of contribution on a scale of 1-5 (1 being the lowest and 5 being the highest)

By:	1	2	3	4	5
Improving livelihoods	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Supporting subsistence needs, including fuel wood, fodder and shelter	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Contributing to food security, including through agroforestry systems	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Providing employment, including employment in informal economy	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other:	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Please describe, and, if possible, provide web-link(s) to relevant document(s):

Not relevant in Finland.

20. How have forests/SFM contributed to ensuring environmental sustainability (MDG7) in your country?

Please rate the scale of contribution on a scale of 1-5 (1 being the lowest and 5 being the highest)

By:	1	2	3	4	5
Providing habitat	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Supporting ecosystem, species and genetic diversity	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Stabilizing soils and slopes	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Safeguarding water resources	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Sequestering carbon	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Providing timber, energy and other products	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Please describe, and, if possible, provide a web-link to relevant document(s):

Please see the answers in Part 1 of the questionnaire.

21. How have forests/SFM contributed to developing a global partnership for development (MDG8) in your country?

Please rate the scale of contribution on a scale of 1-5 (1 being the lowest and 5 being the highest)

By:	1	2	3	4	5
Engaging in regional and international collaboration on issues related to improved governance	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	X
Through trade agreements involving forest products (e.g. bilateral/sub-regional/regional/inter-regional free trade agreements, EU voluntary partnership agreements, etc.)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	X
Fostering partnerships with the private sector	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	X	<input type="checkbox"/>
Attracting foreign investment in the forest sector	<input type="checkbox"/>	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Fostering bilateral and international financial cooperation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	X	<input type="checkbox"/>
Fostering north-south, and south-south technical, technological and scientific partnerships	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	X
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Please describe, and, if possible, provide web-link(s) to relevant document(s):

Please note that we have answered how Finland has participated the above mentioned actions. Question poorly formulated.

22. Have forests/SFM contributed to making progress in achieving any of the remaining MDGs in your country?

☐ Yes ☐ No

If Yes, please describe, and, if possible, provide web-link(s) to relevant document(s):

MDG2: Achieving universal primary education

Not applicable.

MDG3: Promoting gender equality and empowering women

Extension services have been developed especially for women (both in Finland and for development cooperation). Gender is a cross-cutting theme in all development cooperation.

MDG4: Reducing child mortality

Not applicable.

MDG5: Improving maternal health

Not applicable.

MDG6: Combating HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases

Not applicable.