

Country: South Africa

Date of submission: 30 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 Forum<sup>1</sup>, 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).

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<sup>1</sup> 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](mailto: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](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**

### **UNFF national focal point**

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### **Person to contact concerning the national report, if other than the UNFF national focal point**

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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 type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Forest legislation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
National forest programme	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Forest land tenure	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other actions	<input type="checkbox"/>	
None	<input type="checkbox"/>	

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

In 2013, The department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (DAFF) started the process to bring further amendments to some provisions of both the National Forest Act (NFA) and National Veld and Forest Fire Act (NV & FFA). In summary, the proposed amendments aim to :

- Provide clear definition of terms in the Act e.g. Natural forest, assignment
- Increase promotion and enforcement of Sustainable Forest Management
- Provide measures to control and remedy deforestation
- Provide clear procedures for making regulations
- Minimize costs for compliance promotion through publication of protected trees
- Align the provision of assignment in terms of section 47 with section 97 and 99 of the Constitution.
- Establish committee for consideration of offset for development constituting exceptional circumstance.
- Provide appeal procedures

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Forest legislation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
NFP	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Forest land tenures	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other actions	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<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):

<http://www.daff.gov.za/daffweb3/Portals/0/Bills/National%20Forests%20Amendment%20Bill.pdf>

**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
- ☒ Bilateral agreements between exporting/importing countries
- ☐ None
- ☐ Other, e.g. public procurement policies, public-private partnerships. Please list below:

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

The DAFF has a memorandum of agreement with International Trade and Administration Commission of South Africa (ITAC) with regards to effective administration, control and monitoring of forest products exports.

Section 7 1(b) and Section 15 1(b) of the Act prohibits exportation of protected trees and indigenous trees without a licence.

In terms of enforcement and compliance, the DAFF in conjunction with the Justice College trained the Prosecutors and Magistrates to be acquainted with the provisions of the Act and thereby ensure that offenders are convicted successfully.

As a CITES signatory, South Africa continues to monitor and control CITES timber moving through its borders. The DAFF in cooperation with TRAFFIC, non-government organization, undertakes periodic monitoring of cross-border timber movement, and continues to train customs officials at several ports in timber identification processes.

The importation of forest products is still controlled through the Plant Improvement Act of 1976. Section 26 of this Act prohibits the importation of any plant (which include seed) or propagating material unless the variety is one which is permitted by the Act, is duly packed, marked and labelled and is imported through a prescribed port of entry, unless the Registrar has allowed the importation of plants (including seeds) or propagating material which does not comply with all of those requirements. No permit is necessary for the importation of Pine Seed. A valid phytosanitary certificate must accompany all seed when imported.

<http://www.daff.gov.za/daffweb3/LinkClick.aspx?fileticket=JigtiG7lrGM%3d&portalid=0>

<http://www.nda.agric.za/docs/NPPOZA/PlantImprovement.pdf>

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:

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:

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

The Presidency embarked on the development of a long-term strategy for the government entitled the "National Development Plan (Vision 2030)". Forestry is identified as one of the vehicles to job creation.

DAFF, in 2012 developed the Integrated Growth and Development Plan covering all three sectors of the department, namely, agriculture, forestry and fisheries. The plan recognizes the role Forestry plays in contributing to local and national economies.

Forestry is included in the Integrated Development Plans of some Municipalities in the country.

The industry has several projects contributing to poverty eradication. The industry has outgrower schemes like Project Grow and Khula Nathi to support small growers. The department has also embarked on a process of developing a series of policies and sector strategies related to poverty eradication, which have been approved in 2010 and 2012 for implementation. There are strategies supporting Small Medium and Micro Enterprises development in the sector and capacity building programs. The Afforestation Programme provides immediate employment to needy people.

<http://www.gov.za/documents/detail.php?cid=348761>

[http://www.nda.agric.za/docs/GenReports/DAFF\\_IGDP\\_2012.pdf](http://www.nda.agric.za/docs/GenReports/DAFF_IGDP_2012.pdf)

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 department is a member of various forums with various sectors to ensure SFM. These sectors are the environment sector and transport sector. These measures are effective. The department of Environmental affairs, South African National Biodiversity Institute (SANBI), Department of Waters Affairs and Sanitation, Department of Energy, Department of Mineral Resources, Department of Transport, Department of Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs and the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR)

	Effective	Partially effective	Not effective	Not in place
Agriculture/Rural Development	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Energy	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Water	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Tourism	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input checked="" 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):

[http://www.nda.agric.za/doaDev/sideMenu/ForestryWeb/webapp/Documents/Stateoftheforestsreport\\_web.pdf](http://www.nda.agric.za/doaDev/sideMenu/ForestryWeb/webapp/Documents/Stateoftheforestsreport_web.pdf)

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):

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:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Afforestation	50336	ha
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Reforestation		ha
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Restoration	3 500	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
- ☐ New legislation and actions aimed at conservation and protection of forests
- ☐ Subsidies for forest owners to prepare and implement management plans
- ☐ Subsidies for forest protection
- ☐ Reduced/deferred taxes for forest land
- ☐ 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):

Guidelines on biodiversity offsets and control of development on forestry areas have been developed to save the forests and trees threatened by development and they are in use.

The Department is collaborating with other organisations such as the South African National Biodiversity Institute (SANBI) in efforts to conserve forests and forest biodiversity.

The DAFF, through the Land Use and Soil Management unit implements a programme aimed at rehabilitating landscapes including woodland areas.

The DEA through the Working for Woodlands programme, a multi government programme, forming part of the Extended Public Works Programme (EPWP) is doing some work towards woodland rehabilitation.

A national Forest Implementation task team is in place to help the regions with enforcement of the act and raising awareness with local authorities to prevent deforestation

South Africa celebrates Arbor Week from 1-7 September annually. The National Arbor Week serves to promote awareness for the need to plant and maintain indigenous trees throughout South Africa and raise awareness of South Africa's urban greening initiatives

[http://www.nda.agric.za/doaDev/sideMenu/ForestryWeb/webapp/Documents/Stateoftheforestsreport\\_web.pdf](http://www.nda.agric.za/doaDev/sideMenu/ForestryWeb/webapp/Documents/Stateoftheforestsreport_web.pdf)

It must be noted that South Africa's afforestation potential is very little with only the provinces of Kwazulu-Natal and the Eastern Cape having a potential to expand to new areas. The reason for this is that the country has scarcity of water and the stringent nature of the regulatory environment for afforestation.

**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:



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 type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Indigenous communities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

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

There are various platforms for stakeholders to participate in policy formulation, planning and implementation through various committees which have representatives from the government, industry, communities, private individuals, labour and traditional authorities. The main one is the National Forests Advisory Committee and its two permanent Committees, the Committee on Sustainable Forest Management and the Committee for Forest Access. The council's task is to advise the Minister of Agriculture, Forests and Fisheries and the Department on any matters related to sustainable forest management. The Committee on Sustainable Forest management (CSFM) is constituted to represent the different parties with an interest in sustainable forest management and advise the council as such whilst the committee for Forest Access promotes access to forests and education on the sustainable management and use of forests amongst other things. Furthermore, there are various forums at local level to enable interested persons to participate in forestry related decisions and policies. The department from time to time call Forestry Indaba as a platform for stakeholders to have a dialogue.

[http://www.nda.agric.za/doaDev/sideMenu/ForestryWeb/webapp/Documents/Stateoftheforestsreport\\_web.pdf](http://www.nda.agric.za/doaDev/sideMenu/ForestryWeb/webapp/Documents/Stateoftheforestsreport_web.pdf)

<http://www.dwaf.gov.za/Documents/Forestry/Tact84.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):

The Committee for Forestry Access's mandate includes advising on promotion of education on forests and to ensure a conducive environment for the general public to have access to forests to derive value (cultural, social and economic) thereof as provided for in Section 24 (6 a), Section 7, 15, 23 and 29 of the Act.

For consumptive use, the act allows use through licenses, exemptions, servitudes, leases, agreements, community forestry agreements, assignment and delegations

<http://www.dwaf.gov.za/Documents/Forestry/Tact84.pdf>

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):

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 type="checkbox"/> Carbon storage (including REDD+)  | USD |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Nature conservation               | USD |
| <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):

Currently there are no reward/payment systems in place for ecosystem services. However, the Department of Environmental Affairs, the commercial forestry industry in conjunction with specialist researchers, and the South African National Biodiversity Institute (SANBI) have done work on this subject mainly to evaluate and quantify some of the ecosystems services in the South African context. Information and methodologies have been developed for the valuation of ecosystem services so far but still on infancy stage to be reported.

**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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Domestic public funding	\$61 773 600	\$ 60 253 600
<input type="checkbox"/> Domestic private funding	USD	USD
<input type="checkbox"/> Public international funding (including ODA and REDD+)	USD	USD
<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):

The legally binding forest Sector Broad Based Black Economic Empowerment (BBBEE) charter developed in 2008 in collaboration with the sector is one of many ways to strengthen public-private partnerships. A strong focus of the charter is to attain a weighted black ownership profile of 30% for the industry as a whole within ten years. The industry and government are committed to working together in pursuing this target.

Work is underway to align financial assistance policies so that forestry can have access to development finance packages such as grants and credit that are currently available in the Department. As such, the Micro Agricultural Finance Institutions of South Africa (MAFISA) policy was being reviewed to incorporate forestry, as the DAFF strives to create a One-Stop shop for funding for all projects in the three sectors of the Department.

<http://www.daff.gov.za/daffweb3/Branches/Forestry-Natural-Resources-Management/Small-Scale-Forestry/Project-and-Programmes/BBBEE-Forestry-Charter>

The Department of Transport is currently implementing recommendations made in the study on "Determination of Forestry Transport Requirements in relation to Transport Development Plans at National, Provincial and Municipal Level". This study was commissioned by the department on the state of infrastructure affecting SFM.

<http://www.daff.gov.za/doaDev/sideMenu/ForestryWeb/webapp/documents/Consolidated%20Plan.pdf>

**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):

South Africa ratified the SADC protocol on forestry.  
[http://www.sadc.int/files/9813/5292/8364/Protocol\\_on\\_Forestry2002.pdf](http://www.sadc.int/files/9813/5292/8364/Protocol_on_Forestry2002.pdf)  
  
The country has various bilateral and multilateral agreements on various aspects of SFM  
[http://www.nda.agric.za/doaDev/sideMenu/ForestryWeb/webapp/Documents/Stateoftheforestsreport\\_web.pdf](http://www.nda.agric.za/doaDev/sideMenu/ForestryWeb/webapp/Documents/Stateoftheforestsreport_web.pdf)

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

Insufficient funds. The political development priorities, many times supersede the need for conservation and protection of natural resources.

**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:

Centre of Excellence (CoE) in Tree Health Biotechnology (CTHB).

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 Industry is still funding 90% of the research and implementation through in- house company activities and collectively through Centres of Excellency. Intellectual property produced by research bodies, often the fruit of private funding, is still not accessible to all. The Forest Sector Research and Development strategy has been approved for implementation but the challenge is funding for implementation.

**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):

During Arbor week and other relevant events

**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, Taraporto etc.)
- ☐ Other

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

Principles, Criteria, Indicators and Standards were developed based on national policies and international obligations. The principal uses of PCI & S are to monitor the state of the country's forests and to promote SFM. They are used as a tool for reporting on the state of the forests and for auditing (local level PCI & S). They are also used for creating a framework for policy development and review (national level PCI & S).

<http://www.daff.gov.za/daffweb3/Branches/Forestry-Natural-Resources->

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:

FAO (FRA)

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

No

**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:**

SA has made strides in ensuring the achievement of GOF 1 and 3 mainly by implementing and enforcing the National Forests Act. Some of these efforts are as follows:

- The Department is collaborating with other organizations such as the South African National Biodiversity Institute (SANBI) in efforts to conserve forests and forest biodiversity. Threatened forest ecosystems were identified as part of the processes required to protect forest ecosystems in a systematic and representative manner as required by the provisions of the environmental laws. Three forest types were listed as endangered and six as vulnerable in the list of threatened ecosystems that was published for comment on 6 November 2009 in terms of the National Environmental Management Biodiversity Act (Act 10 of 2004). Several individual threatened forest patches of high conservation value were also listed for protection under this Act, which gives such listed ecosystems enhanced status in the Integrated Development Plans of local and regional authorities.
- Following the completion of the national forest type classification in 2002 a continuous process was initiated to develop a systematic protected area planning framework for the forest biome in 2004. A National target of 23% was set for all natural forests. During 2010-2012, Priority areas in Mpumalanga were identified to be protected as nature reserves. Nine state forests in Mpumalanga have been earmarked for declaration as forest nature reserves. The declaration of forests as nature reserves provides an extra layer of protection.
- By February 2013, 1 511 739 ha of planted and non-planted areas is Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) certified since the process of certification started. 54.6 % of this is privately owned land which is in the hands of big companies such as SAPPI and Mondi. 82% of all commercial plantations in South Africa have achieved FSC certification for compliance with sustainable management practices on at least 82% of the total forest plantation area.
- The commercial forestry private sector in partnership with SANBI is implementing a project whereby formal recognition of sites on forestry estates that have high ecological value, either as 'nature reserves' or 'protected environments' will be

granted. Three sites on forestry estates (private land) have been declared nature reserves and 33 more sites have been targeted for formal conservation protection. All these efforts are aimed at improved management of wetlands, grasslands and functioning ecosystems found on the forestry estates across South Africa.

- Guidelines on biodiversity offsets and control of development on forestry areas have been developed to save the forests and trees threatened by development and they are in use.
- The Department, through the Land Use and Soil Management unit implements a programme aimed at rehabilitating landscapes including woodland areas.
- The DEA through the Working for Woodlands programme, a multi government programme, forming part of the Extended Public Works Programme (EPWP) is doing some work towards woodland rehabilitation.
- A national Forest Implementation task team is in place to help the regions with enforcement of the act and raising awareness with local authorities to prevent deforestation. Through annual Arbor Week celebrations, awareness is raised on importance of trees and forests. Both indigenous and fruit trees are planted during these celebrations.
- The department has embarked on an ongoing initiative to raise compliance of the Act through the gazetting of list of protected trees, Champion trees and training of Peace Officer and other law enforcement persons. In 2012, several litigation cases were opened for destruction of forests and protected trees. The Champion Trees Project is aimed at identifying and protecting individual trees of national conservation importance under the National Forests Act of 1998

## 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 checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Contributing to food security, including through agroforestry systems	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" 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 checked="" 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):

South Africa has several programmes and developed strategies to deal with eradicating poverty and hunger. Some of the strategies are; Forestry and Poverty Alleviation strategy, Livelihood strategy, Small Medium and Micro Enterprises strategy.

The Afforestation Programme provides immediate employment to needy people.

Marula (*Sclerocarya birrea*) is an extremely important source of food for poor households in a third of the country, for this tree produces nutritious fruits that are used in various products, including home brew beer and commercially marketed liquor.

Baobab (*Adansonia digitata*) fruit also supports an industry producing a range of products, including tartar used as a food ingredient. The fruit of more than 30 other tree species are used by poor rural households in relatively small quantities to supplement food such as the Kei apple (*Dovyalis caffra*) and Dune medlar (*Ancylanthos monteiro*).

The Department contributes to the efforts to fight hunger by integrating greening with food security. This is done by integrating trees in food gardens, planting of fruit trees and mini orchards and the promotion of Trees Programme throughout the country.

#### 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Supporting ecosystem, species and genetic diversity	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Stabilizing soils and slopes	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Safeguarding water resources	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sequestering carbon	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Providing timber, energy and other products	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" 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 a web-link to relevant document(s):

The department has implemented several programmes to prevent environmental degradation and improve genetic resources. There are greening programmes and annual events e.g. One million tree programmes, arbor week, afforestation amongst others

**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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Fostering partnerships with the private sector	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Attracting foreign investment in the forest sector	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Fostering bilateral and international financial cooperation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Fostering north-south, and south-south technical, technological and scientific partnerships	<input type="checkbox"/>	<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"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

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

As mentioned earlier through ratification of the SADC protocol forestry and several bilateral agreements

**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):

The industry contributes directly and indirectly to the achievement of MDGs

**MDG2: Achieving universal primary education**

The South African Pulp and Paper Industries (SAPPI) , for example, promotes technical literacy and education for students in grades 10, 11 and 12, with the main aim of increasing the skilled human resources base focused on Engineering, Science and Technology. The programme is accessed by up to 1700 pupils per year through nine centres.

The Kwadukuza Resource Centre, supported by SAPPI, also provides educational resources as well as access to computer and internet facilities for over 90 schools and 70 000 learners.

Natal Co-operative Timbers (NCT) on the other hand supports rural and special schools.

The industry also supports the efforts of community libraries to promote culture and literacy amongst the younger generation by donating books to 45 community libraries.

**MDG3: Promoting gender equality and empowering women**

At present the BBBEE charter for the forestry sector is being implemented. It aims at increasing the number of black people, particularly women that own, manage and control enterprises and productive assets facilitating ownership and management of enterprise and productive assets by communities, workers, co-operatives and other collective enterprises.

**MDG4: Reducing child mortality**

The industry in collaboration with department of health provides mobile clinics to forestry workers.

About 28 million people use traditional plant medicine in South Africa and they need to be assured of a continuing supply. Over 65% of the plant material in urban markets comes from forest or savannah species and the most favoured species come from forests

**MDG5: Improving maternal health**

The industry in collaboration with department of health provides mobile clinics to forestry workers.

**MDG6: Combating HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases**

The department has HIV/AIDS prevention and management strategy that is implemented. There is also a wellness programme to support employees that are affected.