Development of International Indicators on Forests and its Implications to Country Actions

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A new stage of IAF

- 2030 Agenda and its SDGs developed in Sep 2015
- ECOSOC resolution 2015/33 on IAF beyond 2015
- Development of UNSPF in 2017
- This OLI hosted by CPF, aiming at developing global forest indicators, in support of the 2030 Agenda and UNSPF, is of great strategic value
Forest indicators, SDGs and UNSPF

- Forests can provide economic, social and ecological benefits, perform multiple functions, and contribute to all SDGs
- Through development of targets and indicators in UNSPF, forests and 17 SDGs can be linked
Opportunities to forests

- Highlight forest’s important role in achieving SDGs
- Produce synergies among forest institutions to reduce fragmentation in forest governance
- Attract finance in forests
- Share experience and best practices
- Establish a doable implementation system for forest-related UN resolutions
Development of indicators

• Forest indicators need to be time-bound, can be numerical or qualitative

• Numerical indicators need to refer to current info and baseline data

• FAO has been committed to FRA, and is playing an important role in developing indicators and MAR
Translate international goals into country actions

• Countries’ involvement guarantees achievement of international goals

• Development of global goals, targets and indicators, and establishment of MAR system alone cannot achieve SFM

• VPCs proposed in UNSPF is an effective way to link country actions with international goals

• Therefore, the VPC system needs to be developed and improved
Doable country actions

• Could be linked with the 2030 Agenda and UNSPF when developing or updating NFP
• Develop national VPCs, with reference to SDGs and UNSPF, based on national conditions, forest situations and funds available
• Develop and implement national forest financing strategies in support of country actions, including needs for public, private and international investment
• Develop and implement SFM C&I system at national level
• South-south, north-south, and triangular cooperation
Indicators’ implications to country actions

Forest cover
- Afforestation, reforestation, and forest restoration

Stock volume
- Combat deforestation and illegal logging

Carbon stock
- Protect and sustainably manage forest

Economy and employment
- Development of forest industries
Difficulties faced by country actions

• Lack of funds for implementation

• Lack of technique support

• Lack of capacity building

• Overload burden on reporting
Potential positive results of country actions

• Country actions can be recognized internationally, and contribute to SDGs

• Attract funds in NFP’s implementation

• Enhance national forest governance

• Promote international cooperation
Favorable indicators to encourage countries’ implementation

In order to attract high level political and donors’ attention, the indicators

- Should be ambitious, meaningful, measurable, achievable and concise
- Should establish the linkage with SDGs and other international agreements and targets
- May focus on forest cover, stock volume, deforestation and forest degradation, carbon stock, contribution to economic development and employment, and financial resources
Roles of international orgs

• CPF members can provide technique support to develop ambitious and doable targets for UNSPF

• FAO can provide technical support and advice to countries in developing VPCs, based on FRA in regions and countries

• UNFF and other CPF members contribute to streamlining and improving the MAR system, and report to HLPF on the role of forest in achieving SDGs
Roles of international orgs

• UN can award countries that have made significant progress
• Multilateral financing institutions (GEF, GCF, WB) can fund country actions on forests
• GFFFN can facilitate fund-raising and support countries on capacity building and the development of national forest financing strategies
• CPF members can develop work programs, and earmark funds to provide technical and financial support to international and country actions
Conclusion

• IAF faces historic opportunities
• Achievement of international goals depends on the implementation system which encourages country actions
• Country actions require high level political support and availability of resources
• Forest-related institutions should identify its role in IAF to contribute to global forest goals
Thank you for your attention!

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