

***Collaborative Partnership on Forests  
(CPF)***

***Task Force on***

***Streamlining Forest-related Reporting***



# *Collaborative Partnership on Forests*

## *Task Force*

### **Established**

- **July 2002 - ToR endorsed by CPF Oct 2002**

### **Members:**

- **DESA/UNFFS, ITTO, Secretariats of CBD, UNCCD and UNFCCC, UNEP-WCMC, FAO**

### **Two meetings:**

- **Bonn, Nov 2002 (UNFCCC)**
- **Cambridge, Feb 2003 (UNEP-WCMC)**

# **The CPF Portal on Forest Reporting**

**<http://www.fao.org/forestry/cpf-mar>**

**Objective:** to reduce reporting burden and help countries to make the best use of existing information

- **National reports previously submitted**
- **The main forest-related reporting schemes and guidelines**
- **Work of the CPF Task Force**
- **Other useful guidance, linkages and information**

- **Analyses of reporting formats and questionnaires showed substantial areas of overlap**



⇒ **Work together for joint requests of information**

TYPE OF INFORMATION REQUESTED	MAIN BODIES/ PROCESSES INVOLVED	STREAMLINING POTENTIALS AT THE INTERNATIONAL LEVEL
<p><b>Forest resources Products and services Policy and institutions</b></p> <p>(situation and trends)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- FRA</li> <li>- joint forest sector questionnaire</li> <li>- C&amp;I processes</li> <li>- ITTO</li> <li>- UNFCCC (LULUCF, carbon stocks)</li> <li>- UNEP (protected areas)</li> </ul>	<p><b><u>Short term:</u></b> some common variables</p> <p><b><u>Longer term:</u></b> Potential for joint requests for, drawing from C&amp;I processes</p> <p><b><u>Vision:</u></b> joint information management/portal</p>
<p><b>Policy and processes</b></p> <p><b>Compliance: reporting on actions taken against commitments</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- CBD</li> <li>- UNFCCC</li> <li>- CCD</li> <li>- UNFF</li> <li>- CSD</li> <li>- ITTO (target 2000)</li> </ul>	<p><b><u>Short term:</u></b> Little scope for streamlining reporting on actions taken</p> <p><b><u>Short/Medium term:</u></b> joint thematic components in information requests, e.g. through modular approach</p> <p><b><u>Vision:</u></b> Joint (thematic) information requests on forests</p>

# Collaborative activities agreed

<b>Thematic area of collaboration</b>	<b>Partners</b>
<b>Information on carbon stocks</b>	<b>FAO/FRA and UNFCCC</b>
<b>Baseline data on forest biological diversity</b>	<b>FAO/FRA and CBD</b>
<b>Information on actions taken for conservation, sust. use and equitable sharing of the benefits of forest biological diversity</b>	<b>UNFCCC and CBD Secretariats</b>
<b>C&amp;I</b>	<b>FAO/FRA, ITTO, UNFCCC, CBD and relevant C&amp;I processes</b>
<b>Information on environmental changes: forest biological diversity/climate change/desertification</b>	<b>Secretariats of CBD, UNFCCC, UNCCD and UNFCCC</b>
<b>Capacity building for information collection, analysis and dissemination (national forest assessments and forest-related carbon inventories)</b>	<b>FAO/FRA and UNFCCC to identify possibilities for joint action</b>

## **Supporting activities:**

- **Collaboration / streamlining of administrative information such as lists of focal points**
- **Definitions**
- **Information management**
- **Improvements of information requests**
  - shortening questionnaires / rephrasing questions (knowing the real information needs)
  - using existing and base line information; including in the reporting guidelines
  - references to sources of information provided through reporting to other instruments/organizations
  - professional designing and processing of the questionnaires

## **Major obstacles for streamlining**

- **Real necessity for each secretariat/ organization to individually collect data to be valid and useful**
- **Difficulties for the convention secretariats to streamline on short-term if decisions already taken by the governing bodies**
- **Possibility to streamline only if reporting is regular (some activities are seen as one time requests)**
- **Poor coordination among national agencies that provide forest-related information**





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### **Future Work**

- **Joint requests and coordinated information management**
- **All members have agreed to share among their constituencies and network the work/results of Task Force (Portal, Leaflet)**
- **Side-events (MAR-Viterbo, UNFF-3...)**
- **Next meeting planned as a small expert consultation (work on joint requests - C&I), possibly jointly with other related meetings**