

practices.

Please describe the main challenges encountered and/or lessons learned.

The main challenges include lack of support and collaboration between law enforcement agencies within and amongst SADC Member States; lack of financial support to implement fully the SADC FLEGT Programme; weak and underfunded forest departments; weak policies and legislation; the high costs for law enforcement in

GOF2, “Enhance forest-based economic, social and environmental benefits, including by improving the livelihoods of forest dependent people”

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Despite the limited opportunity for putting more forests under official protection, the DRC has recently declared over 20 million hectares of protected areas. In addition, the SADC Forestry Strategy 2010 – 2020 calls for creation of forest reserves to protect the regionally vital water catchment forests of key rivers such as the Congo, Zambezi, Okavango, Kwando and Kunene; as well as the highland water catchment areas of Lesotho. Except for the Congo River, all the other rivers have their catchments in the highlands of Angola. This is likely to add significantly to the existing area of protected forests

external sources.

The enthusiasm for increased legal trade among SADC Member States is also an opportunity to increase

Recognizing that MDG7 specifically focuses on ensuring environmental sustainability and is a focal area for forest management, generally there are no forestry initiatives specifically designed to achieve specific MDGs. Individual project objectives may indirectly capture some or all of the 8 MDGs.

A regional example is the Project “Sustainable Management of Indigenous Forests”, which provides experiences of improving livelihoods through forest management to increase forest productivity, income generation and diversification of livelihood opportunities. It addressed MDGs of poverty reduction through employment creation; health and HIV/AIDS; as well as women and stakeholder participation.

Member States produce general country reports on MDGs, and within that there may be some issues of forest contribution to MDGs.

2. What indicators have been, or could be, used to assess the contribution of forests to the MDGs?

Indicators that could be used to assess the contribution of forests to MDGs include;

- Number of people employed in forest-related work
- Proportion of women in forest-related work
- Proportion of population reached on HIV/AIDS awareness via forest related initiatives
- Proportion of land covered by forests and under SFM
- Amount of carbon captured by forests
- Proportion of forest species threatened with extinction
- Financial assistance received into forestry development
- Proportion of funding provided to help build forest products trade and value addition

Areas of Improvement: The IAF must be legally binding to enforce its decisions. It must also have a global financing mechanism to facilitate implementation of SFM.

2. Has the input of your respective regional, sub-regional organization/process been adequately taken into account in the Forum's deliberations?

SADC Secretariat has observer status in the UNFF and therefore its views are not adequately taken into account in the Forum's deliberations. It is the views of the individual SADC Member States who are substantive members of the Forum that are taken into account in the Forum's deliberations.

3. What measures has your organization undertaken to strengthen the current IAF? Please list the most important measures (maximum five):

None

4. How would your respective regional, sub-regional organization/process envisage a strengthened regional/sub-regional component in a future IAF?

SADC Secretariat should be recognized as a substantive member of the Forum. How this is done is up to the Forum to work out.

5. Has your respective regional, sub-regional organization/process worked jointly with member organizations of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests (CPF)² and/or major stakeholders to support the work of UNFF? If yes, please evaluate the overall collaboration.

Yes:

SADC-FAO: Development of SADC FLEGT Programme

SADC-CBD-IUCN: Development of Action Plan for SADC Biodiversity Programme

CIFOR-SADC: Study on a Regional Approach to REDD+: Exploring Issues and Options for Southern African Development Community (SADC). Preparation for COP17

IUCN-SADC: Biodiversity Support Programme

SADC-IUCN: Invasive alien species, an ongoing issue within Member States, particularly South Africa and the small Island States of SADC

UNFC-FAD- IUCN- USAID-UNFF: Congo Basin initiatives/partnership, ongoing and supported also by

² CPF member organizations: Centre for International Forestry Research (CIFOR), Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), International Tropical Timber Organization (ITTO), International Union of Forest Research Organizations (IUFRO), Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), Secretariat of the Global Environmental Facility (GEF), Secretariat of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD), United Nations Forum on Forests Secretariat (UNFF), Secretariat of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), World Agroforestry Centre (ICRAF), The World Bank, International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN)

