



CONCEPT NOTE | UNFF14 Panel Item 5 of the UNFF 14 provisional agenda

Wednesday, 8 May 2019, 5:00 - 6:00 pm

Introduction

The UNFF Global Forest Financing Facilitation Network (GFFFN) was established by ECOSOC resolution 2015/33. The purpose of the GFFFN, as set out in paragraph 62 of the UNSPF 2030, is to contribute to scaling up SFM by facilitating access by countries to resources to implement the UNSPF 2030 and achieve its GFGs and targets. The four priorities for the Network are to:

- Promote the design of national forest financing strategies to mobilize resources for sustainable forest management;
- 2. Assist countries in mobilizing, accessing and enhancing the effective use of existing financial resources from all sources for SFM;
- 3. Serve as a clearing house and database on existing, new and emerging financing opportunities and as a tool for sharing lessons learned and best practices from successful projects; and
- 4. Serve to contribute to the achievement of the GFGs and targets as well as priorities contained in the quadrennial programme of work of the Forum (4POW).

Since UNFF13, the Network has initiated support to 11 countries under <u>Priorities 1 and 2</u> above, bringing the total number of countries supported to 24. In the past year, this support has been made possible by voluntary contributions from China, Finland and Switzerland and by funding secured by the Secretariat from the UN Regular Programme of Technical Cooperation (RPTC).

UNFF13 adopted guidelines for the operation of the GFFFN which are contained in annex II of the UNFF13 resolution. Paragraph 17 of the resolution requests the Secretariat, in consultation with interested members of the Forum and CPF (Priority 3 above) based on guidance contained in section 7 of the GFFFN Guidelines, bearing in mind the benefits of a step-wise approach.

Thus far, the Forum has not discussed Priority 4, a broad formulation that echoes the purpose of the Network and encompasses Priorities 1-3 and related work. The Network, which is a standing item in the 4POW 2017-2020 agenda (Tables 1-4) clearly contributes to achieving the GFGs and targets set out in the UNSPF 2030, particularly GFG 4. However, further darification of priority 4 and its interlinkages with other Network and Forum priorities could be useful.

Intersessional work

Since UNFF13, the Secretariat has organized several capacity building and validation workshops in dient countries and established teams of national and international consultants to assist in developing financing strategies and project concepts. The Secretariat also commissioned Ms Jan McAlpine and Mr Juergen Blaser to prepare