

Preparations for the Midterm
Review (MTR)
of the International
Arrangement on Forests (IAF)

Assessment on actions related
to the Global Forest Financing
Facilitation Network (GFFFN)

Nairobi, 20 June 2023
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Actions related to Assessment ! on the Global Forest Financing Facilitation Networ

1. Assess the progress made by the G N to ! ards achie"ing the ob#ecti"es o\$ the international arrangement on \$orests, as de\$ined in Council resolution 201%&33.
2. 'e"ie ! the per\$ormance o\$ the Net !or(and the impacts o\$ its acti"ities, the su\$\$iciency o\$ its resources and the challenges to and constraints on its !or(.
3.)ropose measures to increase the e\$\$iciency and added "alue o\$ the Net !or(and strengthen its capacity to \$acilitate and enhance access by eligible countries to resources \$or \$orests \$rom all sources and re"ie ! the Net !or(guidelines adopted during the thirteenth session o\$ the orum, in the conte*t o\$ the midterm re"ie ! o\$ the international arrangement on \$orests in 202+.

- facilitative process, 200-2014/

Established by the special session of the ninth session of the UN to assist developing countries and countries with economies in transition to identify obstacles and opportunities for accessing the required funding from all sources and thereby to help them mobilise funds for forests.

Focus placed on 143, 5 CCs, Africa, least developed countries and climate change, leading to analytical studies.

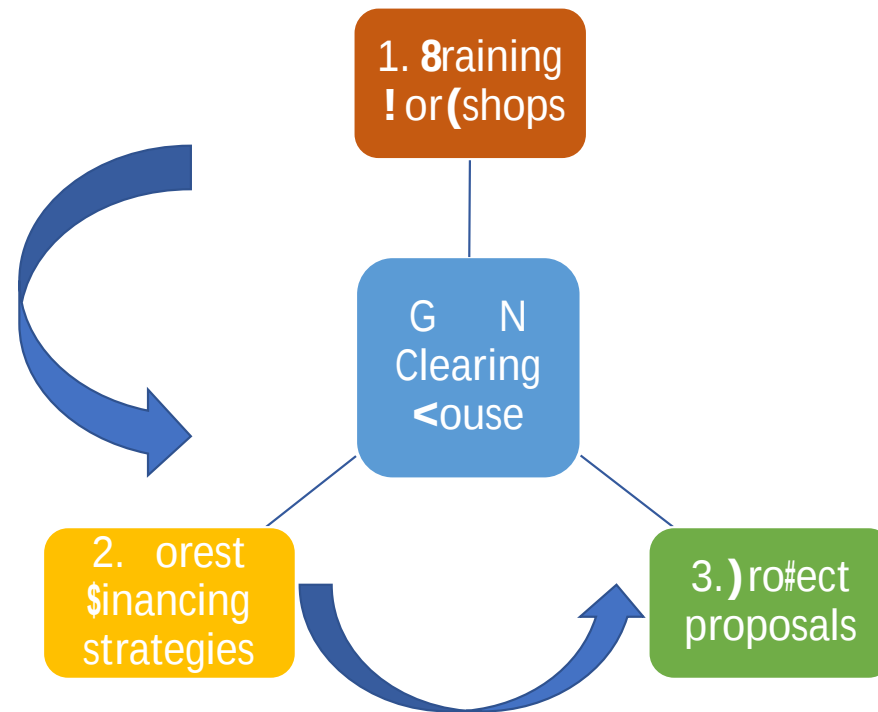
- GON, 2014-present/

UN General Assembly resolution 68/235 on the LA beyond 2014 changed the name of the UN facilitative process to the Global Forest Financing Facilitation Network. It further decided that clear priorities for the GON were to be set in the United Nations Strategic Plan for forests 2014-2030, 2014/1.

- To promote and assist members in designing national forest financing strategies to mobilize resources for sustainable forest management;
- To assist countries in mobilizing, accessing and enhancing the effective use of existing financial resources from all sources for sustainable forest management;
- To 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;
- To contribute to the achievement of the global forest goals and targets, as well as priorities contained in the Quadrennial programmes of work.

UN General Assembly resolution 2017/1, Annex 1: United Nations strategic plan for forests 2017-2030/

The "NFF forest financing capacity building framework





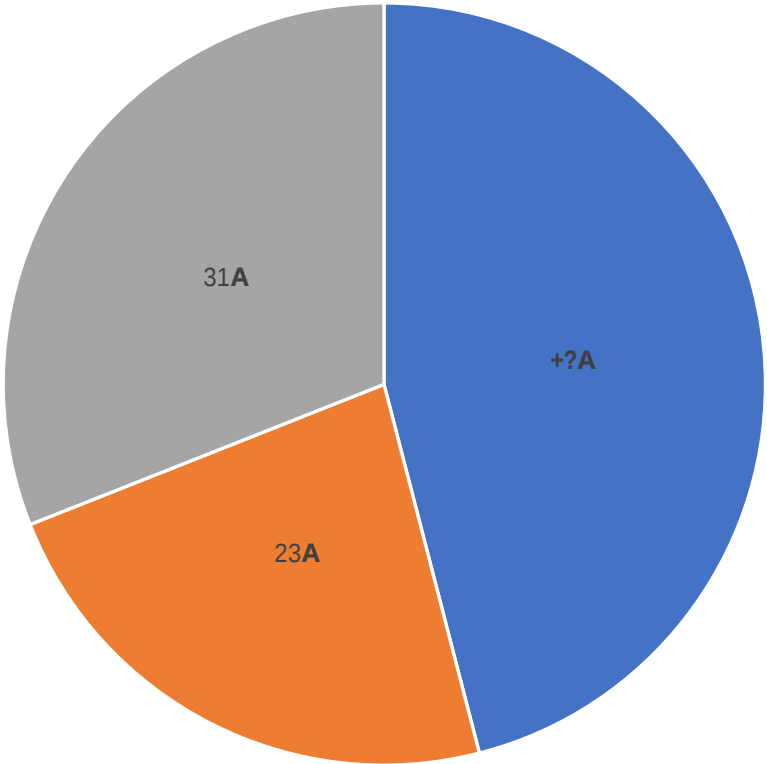
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- 33 countries have requested G N capacity building support.
- 7 forest financing strategies have been validated by countries and an eighth has been completed and will be presented for validation.
- 11 forest financing strategies are to be validated or are still in preparation and a 12th is outstanding, G N financing unavailable/.
- The G N has completed 1 or more project proposals.
- 1+ project proposals are on going and sub - 10.5832(l) (- 10.5832(l) (- 10.r

Climate change \$ocus o\$ pro#ect proposals



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- Lack of information on available funding opportunities and their requirements.
- Lack of a dedicated institutional organization and clearly articulated strategy for forest resource mobilization.
- Lack of capacity in project preparation. In most cases there are no staff/personnel assigned to resource mobilization.
- High project preparation costs, especially for GC and GO.
- Reliance on international accredited or implementing entities that often have very long pipelines and their own priorities.

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- Phase I of the Clearing House, comprised of a website and three databases: ,i/ funding opportunities, ,ii/ information and learning materials for accessing resources, and ,iii/ lessons learned and best practices, was launched in April 2021.
- At the end of September 2022, total data entries in

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- 2.3 professional staff are primarily dedicated to the G N, none of which are dedicated full-time to the facilitative Net or (.
- In the seven years since its inception in May 2010,

- Strategies for mobilising domestic financing may require fiscal policy or legislative changes, resulting in delays in the implementation of strategies.
- The COVID-19 pandemic resulted in numerous delays in the preparation of NAs and project proposals, affecting the work and deadlines of representatives of relevant government offices, partners and stakeholders, as well as GNA staff.
- Inadequate response from some governments on drafts of an NA or project proposal negatively impacted their preparation and the timeline for their presentation to a donor organisation.
- Some national designated authorities or donor organisations failed to inform the GNA and the national project drafting team of similar parallel project proposals that had already been presented or were about to be presented to a donor organisation.
- A change of a government administration or minister in some cases resulted in project proposals having to be substantially revised due to a new focus or being scrapped for a lack of interest.

- @ery long pipelines by an accredited entity or implementing agency can result in lengthy delays in pro#ect proposal \$inali:ation, submission to and appro"al by a donor organi:ation.
- In a \$e ! cases, the accredited or implementing entity may clash ! ith the re2uesting country on the \$ocus and ob#ecti"es o\$ a pro#ect proposal due to di\$\$ering priorities, ! hich can also cause \$urther delays beyond the control o\$ the G N.
- A ma#or constraint a\$\$ecting both countries and accredited entities is the cost o\$ preparing a \$ull.si:ed pro#ect proposal \$or the consideration o\$ the GC , ! hich is estimated at appro*imately 13C%00,000.700,000 per pro#ect. 9ost accredited entities do not apply \$or)ro#ect)reparation acility ,)) / \$unds since the GC 3ecretariat e*pects large international A0s to mobili:e their

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1. The G N has assisted 3+ countries and member countries of four regional organizations in their endeavours to mobilize 3 9 financing, through capacity building leading to the development of forest financing strategies and supportive project proposals, engaging a wide range of public and private sector stakeholders and partner organizations.
 2. The successful launching of phase I of the G N Clearing House has greatly facilitated access to information on existing and emerging sources of financing of 3 9.
 3. The primary bottleneck of the G N in unlocking financing is not technical or financial. It is because originating a project proposal requires considerable brokerage and net working efforts, notably to secure backing from the GC or GONAs and endorsement from accredited entities.
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Donor financing sought versus donor financing received		
Number of G N. finalized project proposals		1-
Donor funding sought		13C%2%,%03,0+0
Co. financing committed		13C%%B,1+-,?1B
Total project proposals financing		13C1,0B3,?%2,?%B
Average funding sought from donor,s/		13C27,?%B,0%%
Average funding including co. financing		13C%7,03+,3%0
Number of project proposals funded		+
Donor funding mobilized		13C++ ,00B,27B
Co. financing committed		13C%3,-2%,2B?
Total project proposals financing received		13C-7,-33,%?+
Average funding from donor,s/		13C11,002,070
Average funding including co. financing		13C2+,+B3,3-1
A of 1- project proposals mobilizing forest financing		21A
Donor financing received as a A of total		B.37A
Note: Please refer to paragraphs %+.%% and 11- of Assessment 4.		

Length of time from country request to approval of a funded project proposal		
	Project proposals	Duration
Average period from receipt of country request to finalization of GON support ,pre.pandemic/	1+	1B months
Average period from receipt of country request to finalization of GON support ,post.pandemic/	%	3B months
Average period for obtaining donor approval ,GO /	3	2- months
Average period for obtaining donor approval ,GC /	1	++ months
On-going project proposal preparation supported by GON	B of 1+	+BF months
Estimated period for GO and GC approval of full-sized project		2.? years
Currently Estimated period from receipt of country request to approval of full-sized project		+ . 7 D years

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- the Secretariat to engage the C) more closely than in the past in supporting the on-going work of the G N in the elaboration and promotion of project proposals where its members have been invited to serve as GC accredited or G0 implementing agencies.
- Noting that the GC on 19 March 2023 became a member of the C) , the forum Secretariat to regularly update the GC Secretariat on its pipeline of G N-supported project proposals in order to improve coordination and cooperation

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