



NLBI/GOFs

Strengths, weakness, options for



Introduction

The international process on forests is not only **one of the most important multilateral process** but also one of the most politically sensitive.

Economy, society,





Introduction

Progress achieved on forests at the international level has much to deal with the debate on the international legal status this process should have:

Legally Binding vs Non-Legally Binding



Introduction

Two milestones on the forests process were:

- Adoption by UNFF in 2006 of the **4 Global Objectives on Forests (GOF)**.
- Adoption by UNGAS in 2007 of the **Non-legally binding instrument on all types of forests” (NLBI)**.

NLBI

Although it is a non-legally binding instrument, it defines:

Principles,

The need for national policies and measures,

International policies and means for implementation,

Monitoring, assessment and reporting

SFM



Relevance of GOF-4

“Reverse the decline in official development assistance for sustainable forest management and mobilize significantly-increased new and additional financial resources from all sources for the implementation of SFM”

GOF 4 is key to SFM implementation, because if you 1) have the political will, 2) the definition of what should be done clearly stated on the NFP, and 3) the effective involvement of all social stakeholders

without financial resources nothing can be done. This is still _____



***STRENGTHS AND
WEAKNESS***









Strengths and weakness

Weakness:

If the aim for adopting the 4 Global Objectives on Forests was “**to provide clear guidance on the future work of the international arrangement on forests**”, we can say that

we know what we need to do, but didn't succeed yet in doing what is expected.



Strengths and weakness

Weakness:

Current financial mechanisms are in a great extent bilateral, and are not effectively allowing developing countries to fully implement SFM. Transparency, eligibility, conditionalities are not facilitating access to funding for SFM to low income countries, including SIDS.

Strengths and weakness

Weakness:

Not possible to enforce measures and actions of the NLBI and of GOF towards the achievement of SFM, because the NLBI is Not-Legally Binding.

There is not any financial mechanism linked to a Legally Binding Instrument, to ensure supporting developing countries, for starting implementation of SFM on their territories.



Strengths and weakness

Weakness:

ODA has been reduced and, at best, re-directed to many other issues, different than forests.

Data presented in the 2012 study on forest financing by the Advisory Group on Finance (AGF) of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests showed a significant increase in official development assistance

Strengths and weakness

Weakness:

GOF4 is not yet achieved, as this Goal indicates "provision of new and additional resources" which is much beyond the ODA. Those are still missing.

Strengths and weakness

Weakness:

UNFF does not currently have a concrete monitoring mechanism to monitor implementation of the instrument.

Therefore, **future IAF should design such concrete monitoring mechanism, operating within UNFF.**

Options for the improvement in the future

To strengthen the existing NLBI... but how? Last years of implementation of NLBI didn't yield a lot of progress.

To develop, negotiate and adopt a Legally Binding Instrument on All Types of Forests, under the UN.

Because GOFs are not yet achieved, and are still relevant, any mechanism post-2015 that would be decided by UNFF11 should include the extension of GOFs to 2025, with the adoption of concrete measures and targets, to expedite their achievement. Particularly important for GOFs 1 and 4.



Options for the improvement in the future

To strengthen the existing financial sources for forest, at the same time they are reshaped to allow full access by developing countries.

■ Proposal of G77 to revise on the text of the Global Forest Fund





Proposal by G77 to develop and adopt a Global Forest Fund to support developing countries on their efforts to implement SFM

Resources: Contributions to the Fund, including new and additional funds **from all sources**, including voluntary for promoting sustainable forest management.

Structure: In order to operationalize the Fund immediately, hosting of the fund should take full account of keeping to a minimum its overhead costs including the possibility of hosting it in an already existing agency that can later be elaborated.

Governance: the Fund **would function under the guidance of the UNFF**, aiming for better access to funds. The Governing Body, composed by at least three countries from each

distribution, would be responsible for examining and approving project proposals submitted by developing countries. The members of the Governing Body shall be appointed by the UNFF.



Proposal by G77 to develop and adopt a Global Forest Fund to support developing countries on their efforts to implement SFM

Communication strategy: A communication strategy to engage all stake holders and attract potential donors is essential. This strategy would be implemented by the UNFF Secretariat and the CPF

Funding targets: A funding target could be defined by the UNFF, aimed at institutional strengthening, capacity building and transfer of environmentally sound technology, in order to guide the efforts in mobilizing voluntary contributions for the Fund.

Operational procedures: The UNFF should adopt simple and transparent operational procedures for the functioning of the Governing Body, in order to allow for the quick disbursement of funds from the Fund.



Proposal by G77 to develop and adopt a Global Forest Fund to support developing countries on their efforts to implement SFM

Eligible activities and Priorities: The Fund would provide grants to projects that aim at implementing the national policies and programmes and actions outlined in section V of the NLBI.

Reporting procedures: Simple reporting procedures for projects that receive resources from the Fund should be established, in order to assess the efficiency of the Fund in contributing towards implementation of the four Global Objectives, SFM and the NLBI.



Thanks for your attention