

Highlights of the 8th Session of the UNFF

Singapore City, 3 September 2009
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Joint Workshop: Background & Objective



- Requests for greater collaboration & targeted joint activities on SFM, biodiversity & other interrelated issues
- 1st of its kind of joint work btw UNFF and CBD secretariats
- Strengthen our common goals
- Focus on facilitating exchange of information & enhancing cross-sectoral cooperation

8th Session of the Forum: Sub-topic “*Forests in a Changing Environment*”



UNFF8 (April 2009) focused on:

- * “Means of implementation for SFM”
- * “Forests in a Changing Environment” (FiCE) - links btw forests & a set of interrelated issues
- Urgency to address challenges & threats, including impacts on people
- Underscore role of SFM
- Emphasizes the non-legally binding instrument on all types of forests (forest instrument) as an integrated framework to implement SFM at all levels

Resolution 8/1: FiCE, enhanced cooperation, cross-sectoral policy & programme coordination, regional & sub-regional inputs



Member States encouraged to:

- promote in the framework of SFM conservation & sustainable use of biodiversity
- use nfps to integrate measures & seek coherence with national develop't plans, poverty eradication strategies, & Rio Convention strategies
- coordinate among national focal points
- take national forest inventories covering all aspects of SFM to enhance coherence & timeliness of information

Res 8/1: Encouraged Member States



- consider CPF Strategic Framework for Forests & Climate Change
- use market-based approaches to develop & promote products from sustainably managed forests
- invite governing bodies of CPF to integrate SFM into their strategies by:
 - Considering the forest instrument
 - Building on existing & well-established forest tools & processes
 - Ex. thru nfps; C&I for SFM & other related monitoring methodologies & assessment tools; measures for capacity building & transfer of environmentally sound technologies

Res 8/1: Forum invited the CPF



- Provide information on developments in the areas of SFM & FiCE, including impacts on indigenous & other local & forest-dependent communities
- Continue to provide science-based data relevant to themes of future Forum sessions
 - role of the Global Forest Expert Panels

Res 8/1: Requested the Forum Secretariat



- Explore with Rio secretariats a format & opportunities for collaboration & targeted joint activities on SFM, the 4 GOFs & the forest instrument,
 - including in the context of CCD, CBD, UNFCCC developments, and the Int'l Year of Biodiversity (2010) & the Int'l Year of Forests (2011)
- Further promote & facilitate regional & subregional dialogue & cooperation
 - including thru country & region led initiatives

Role and Importance of SFM



- SFM is broader than the management, utilization or conservation of any one particular product or service
- Aims to maintain & enhance the full scale of economic, environmental & social benefits of forests
- Generates a better appreciation of the “co- benefits”
- Measures to reach the Global Objectives on Forests (GOFs) & SFM contribute to sustainable development commitments- going beyond only climate change concerns

Opportunities to support forest-related climate change mitigation & adaptation



- Res 8/1 opens up new opportunities, mainly through SFM & enhanced cooperation
- 3 communities to continue to work closely
- Ensure that SFM not only addresses climate change, but also supports other important global & local goods & services
- Emerging new carbon financing linked to REDD issues may contribute to SFM finance & present significant new opportunities

UNFFS Policy Briefs: Forests & Climate Change



“Forests, Climate Change, REDD” - strategic overview of critical issues

- Impacts of forests on climate change & the reverse
- Outlines the policy context for these issues- REDD in the climate change negotiations & the role of the UNFF in promoting an integrated approach

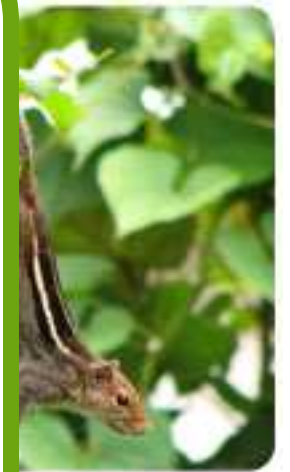
“Financing Forests & Climate Change” - overview of current financing mechanisms, including new initiatives

- Financing SFM, as a whole, is key to realizing the full potential of forests

Challenges & Opportunities Ahead



- Ensure climate change & SFM policies & programs are mutually supportive
- Consider SFM as a comprehensive framework -more than “carbon sticks”
- Define REDD & REDD Plus within the framework of SFM
- Enhance linkages btw mitigation & adaptation measures
- Build capacity for MRV
- Consider the CPF Strategic Framework
- Facilitate multi-level information sharing, transparent decision-making, accountability, well-defined property rights & collaboration



Thank you!

UN Forum on Forests
<http://www.un.org/esa/forests>

