Policy brief on C&I and decision making

Monitoring, Assessment and Reporting - MAR

WORKSHOP ON FOREST MONITORING AND RESTORATION IN THE CAUCASUS AND CENTRAL ASIA

9 DECEMBER 2020, ONLINE
The forest policy and management system
MAR part of it since the start

Milestones of forests in the international agenda

Prior to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, several other documents and initiatives recognized the importance of sustainably using and managing the world's forests. These include:

- Agenda 21
- Commission sustainable development - 3
- UN Forum on Forests
- First application of common forest definition
- MDG 7

\[\text{From SDG Academy}\]
Since 2015, MAR to track progress towards Global Forest Goals and its targets

**UN Strategic Plan for Forests 2017-30** (Global Forest Goals 2017-2030 and Global Core Sets of forest-related indicators to publish in 2021)

The Forest Instrument

Voluntary national contributions to the UNFF

UNFF15 → 1st round of reporting = 50 MS reports = base for a flagship publication towards achieving GFG and targets in 2021
Member States and international organizations (incl. members of CPF):

- To develop adequate monitoring systems to share data and streamline reporting on forests
- To support and promote progress towards SFM (incl. C&I)
- C&I useful tool to generate information on forests at the national level and to report on the state of forests to international bodies, including the Forum.
Global Core Set of forest-related indicators

- Many goals: MDG, SDG, Rio Conventions, Forest Instrument, UNSPF
- Need to coordinate the different forest-related indicators in various processes for clearer messages and reducing the reporting burden
- 21 indicators (limited number) to address the topics identified in high level political commitments to measure progress towards GFGs and targets
## GSC links to seven thematic elements of SFM, and C&I

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Thematic element of SFM</th>
<th>No of GSC indicators</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 Extent of forest resources</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>2 Forest biological diversity</td>
<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td>3 Forest health and vitality</td>
<td>2</td>
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<td>4 Productive functions of forest resources</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>5 Protective functions of forest resources</td>
<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td>6 Socioeconomic functions of forest resources</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>7 Legal, policy and institutional framework</td>
<td>6</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
International forest processes for which MAR is important to have

Regional reporting

National reporting

From GCS_EGM_final_PETER.pdf (un.org)
Criteria and Indicators part of GSF

- Many various sets of C&I in the world that are used by particular regional SFM processes (e.g. Forest Europe, Montreal)
- Global organizations and their activities (FAO-GFRA, ICP-Forests, FSC, CEPF, ITTO, ..)
- Member countries with national sets derived from the set of process/scheme
describe, monitor, assess and report on national forest trends, on progress towards SFM

reflect a holistic approach to forests as ecosystems, highlighting the full range of forest values, cross-sectoral assessments

facilitate policy dialogue and the development and implementation of forest related policies and plans

guide forest management practice, identify the changes in forest management
Reporting format structured around the 6 Global Forest Goals and targets

Reports are mostly “qualitative/narrative nature”
- Standard questions on actions (legislative, institutional, financial and technical)

Reporting should consider terms and definitions from as well as FRA and SDG review cycles
- Data sharing/streamlined format/synchronized data => reduced reporting burden
- Complement with quantitative data from FAO/FRA (FRA 17 out of 21 GCS) - ITTO and other international databases

2015 is used as a baseline
Regional reporting based on MAR

AFRICA: African Forest Forum (AFF) | African Union (AU) | Economic Community of the Central African States (ECCAS)

Amazonian Cooperation Treaty Organization (ACTO)

Asia-Pacific Network for Sustainable Forest Management and Rehabilitation (APFNet)

Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat


FOREST EUROPE

UNECE/FAO Forestry and Timber Section

International Network for Bamboo and Rattan (INBAR)

RECOFTC – The Center for People and Forests

Secretariat of the Tehran Process for Low Forest Cover Countries (LFCCs)
Akers of MAR

- Individual, civil society, administrations, government, business sector, research, education and training ....involved in actions of relevance to MAR:
  - Legislative
  - Institutional
  - Financial
  - Technical and scientific aspects
Steps to develop a MAR in a country?

- No one fits it all solutions
- The basis
  - Ensure technical support
  - Support capacity building
  - Avoid overload burden on reporting
  - Ensure funds for implementation

see United Nations Forum on Forests » National reporting or Sustainable forest management, monitoring, assessment and reporting in Asia-Pacific (fao.org)
MAR help translate the international goals into country actions

**For forests**
- Highlight forest’s important role in achieving SDGs
- Produce synergies among forest institutions to reduce fragmentation in forest governance
- Attract finance in forests
- Share experience and best practices

**For national reporting**
- Country actions can be recognized internationally, and contribute to achievement of international goals (SDGs etc)
- Attract funds in NFP’s implementation
- Enhance national forest governance
- Promote international cooperation
Thank you!