

January 2016

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|  | منظمة الأغذية<br>والزراعة للأمم<br>المتحدة | 联合国<br>粮食及<br>农业组织 | Food and<br>Agriculture<br>Organization<br>of the<br>United Nations | Organisation des<br>Nations Unies<br>pour<br>l'alimentation<br>et l'agriculture | Продовольственная и<br>сельскохозяйственная<br>организация<br>Объединенных<br>Наций | Organización<br>de las<br>Naciones Unidas<br>para la<br>Alimentación y la<br>Agricultura |
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**ASIA-PACIFIC FORESTRY COMMISSION****TWENTY-SIXTH SESSION****Clark, Philippines, 22-26 January 2016****PROGRESS IN IMPLEMENTING APFC- AND FAO-SUPPORTED  
ACTIVITIES IN THE REGION****Secretariat Note****Introduction**

1. This note reports on progress in implementing APFC- and FAO-supported activities and initiatives since the 25<sup>th</sup> Session of the Asia-Pacific Forestry Commission (APFC), convened in Rotorua, New Zealand, in November 2013. It serves as a basis for reviewing follow up to the specific requests and recommendations stemming from the 25<sup>th</sup> Session of the Commission.

**Selected global programmes**

2. The Global Forest Resources Assessment (FRA) is now produced every five years in an attempt to provide a consistent approach to describing the world's forests and how they are changing. The key findings of FRA 2015, and the major FRA publications and statistics, were released during the XIV World Forestry Congress in September 2015. An Asia-Pacific regional analysis of FRA 2015 and an accompanying booklet summarizing regional forestry facts and figures are currently in preparation.

3. A major assessment of the world's forest genetic resources has been completed, and synthesis of country reports was published as The State of the World's Forest Genetic Resources in 2014. FAO has continued to address the global priorities of the Global Plan of Action for the Conservation, Sustainable Use and Development of Forest Genetic Resources (GPA-FGR) agreed by the Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (CGRFA) and adopted by the FAO Conference in 2013, including through the work of regional networks to combat invasive species affecting forest genetic resources.

4. The UN-REDD programme is active in the Asia-Pacific region, with 17 partner countries. The programme supports national REDD+ readiness efforts through provision of direct support to the design and implementation of UN-REDD national programmes and complementary support to national REDD+ action. Nine countries, namely Bangladesh, Cambodia, Indonesia, Mongolia, the Philippines, Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands, Sri Lanka and Viet Nam, receive direct support for their national UN-REDD Programmes. Bangladesh, Bhutan, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Mongolia, Myanmar, Nepal and Pakistan are also programme partners and are being supported through the Support to National Actions Programme.

5. The current phase of the EU-FAO Forest Law Enforcement, Governance and Trade programme (EU FAO FLEGT programme) runs for four years (2012-2016) and is funded by the European Union and implemented by FAO. The overall objective is to improve governance in the forest sector through improvement of policy, legal and regulatory frameworks; increasing capacity of civil society, private sector and forest sector staff to manage forest resources; enforcement of forestry legal frameworks; and knowledge sharing on the FLEGT process. A range of activities are being implemented in the Asia-Pacific region under the programme, which are reported later in this document.

6. The Forest and Landscape Restoration (FLR) Mechanism was launched as a new global programme of FAO in 2014 to help countries to achieve their commitments towards the Bonn Challenge and the Aichi Targets with regard to forest and landscape restoration. The FLRM started the implementation of national work plans on Forest and Landscape Restoration in selected countries in Africa, Asia and the Americas. FLR workplans are being prepared in these countries focusing on: 1) inter-sectoral and multi-stakeholders platforms; 2) support to financial resources mobilization; and 3) pilot actions on forest and landscape restoration at landscape levels.

7. The Forest and Farm Facility (FFF) was officially launched in September 2012. Drawing on the lessons learned from both the National Forest Programme (NFP) Facility in 80 partner countries and the closely-related Growing Forest Partnerships (GFP) Programme, the FFF addresses the remaining challenges in NFP implementation. It also supports new initiatives to help countries improve governance structures at different levels (local, national and regional) to achieve sustainable forest landscape management, while boosting food security and promoting climate-smart agriculture. FFF provides support to strengthen forest and farm producer organizations and multi-sectoral platforms in ten countries globally, including Myanmar, Nepal and Viet Nam in the Asia-Pacific region.

8. FAO has developed a comprehensive technical package of knowledge tools, best practices, processes and their examples of application to facilitate the implementation of sustainable forest management (SFM) under varied contexts, referred to as the *SFM Toolbox*. The Toolbox (through the 30+ modules already uploaded in the website) aims to support forest managers and other stakeholders in progressing towards SFM in a more integrated and cohesive way, with solutions tailored to their specific needs, contexts and major areas of interest, while taking into account the socio-economic and environmental contexts. An evaluation of user experience and information architecture of the Toolbox was carried out in early 2015, the results of which are being considered to improve the accessibility and usability of the site.

### **Asia-Pacific activities and initiatives**

9. FAO and APFC forestry activities in the region can be grouped into three broad categories:

- Activities in the areas of economics, policies and institutions;
- Activities designed to promote improvement in forest management for multiple benefits; and
- Activities designed to foster greater involvement of people in forestry.

#### ***I. Activities in the areas of economics, policies and institutions***

10. Under the auspices of the Asia-Pacific Forest Policy Think Tank, the 8<sup>th</sup> Executive Forest Policy Course was held in Myanmar, March – April 2015. Twenty-three participants from ASEAN countries, Bangladesh, China, Nepal and India participated in this highly successful training event that aimed to respond to at the current actual needs and policy issues. The Think Tank is currently exploring possibilities for enhancing activities in the SAARC countries.

11. The EU-FAO FLEGT programme has increased its presence in the Asia-Pacific region, working with local stakeholders in countries negotiating or implementing Voluntary Partnership Agreements

(VPAs) and other eligible timber-producing countries. The programme is supporting implementing partners in Cambodia, Indonesia, Malaysia, Myanmar, Nepal, Philippines and Viet Nam through

country-specific grants in support of private sector associations and small-scale producers/communities. The 3<sup>rd</sup> Phase (2015-2020) of the Programme will operate in the six VPA countries as well as a smaller number of strategically important “non-VPA” countries in the region, focusing on further enhancing enabling conditions and developing private sector capacity to participate in the production, marketing and trade of legal timber

Significant funding will be dedicated to a Private Sector Specific Outcome (3) “The capacity of the private sector to participate in the production, marketing and trade of legal timber has increased.”

12. In 2014, FAO organized a nine-day training of trainers on “Strengthening Forest Tenure Systems and Governance” for seven Asian countries, namely Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Myanmar, Nepal, Thailand and Viet Nam to improve in-country facilitation in support of forest tenure reform and improved governance of forest tenure reform. Also, FAO is currently implementing a regional Technical Cooperation Programme (TCP) on “Strengthening Forest Tenure for Sustaining Livelihoods and Generating Income” to enhance the contribution of forests to the livelihoods and incomes of forest dependent communities.

13. The UN-REDD programme is supporting steps to build transparent and accountable national REDD+ systems and processes in pilot countries in the region. These interventions include: (1) stakeholder consultation and participation in REDD+ planning and implementation; (2) cross-sectoral coordination in REDD+ planning and implementation; and (3) legislative review towards reform and enforcement. In collaboration with the ASEAN Regional Knowledge Network (ARKN) and other partners, FAO supported a climate change policy exchange and study tour of ASEAN forestry officials to Australia and New Zealand in January-February 2015.

## ***II. Activities designed to promote improvement in forest management for multiple benefits***

14. A meeting of the Asia-Pacific Forest Invasive Species Network (APFISN) was held in Beijing in November 2014, with the support of APFISN Beijing Office, to discuss future directions and a 2015 workplan for the Network. A regional TCP project on *Control and Management of Destructive Forest Invasive Species in South Asian Natural and Plantation Forests* has been successfully implemented in India and Maldives with very positive results. Furthermore, FAO collaborated with SEAMEO BIOTROP in organizing a regional seminar-workshop on *Harmonizing Approaches in Risk Analysis and Management of Forest Invasive Species in Southeast Asia* in December 2014. As part of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Asia-Pacific Forestry Week, APFISN is organizing a workshop on transboundary management of forest invasive species.

15. FAO has continued to work to increase disaster preparedness and build greater understanding of the roles of trees and forests in mitigating natural disasters and supporting post-disaster recovery in the region. These efforts include the preparation of a draft roadmap for a regional strategy on forests and natural disasters, organization of a workshop on Forests and Natural Disasters in the Pacific convened in Nadi Fiji in July 2015, and working with a research organization based in the Philippines (ESSC) to conduct an assessment on forests and droughts. FAO has mobilized over USD 39.7 million to support the Philippines to cope with and recover from Typhoon Haiyan focusing on supporting post-disaster recovery and increasing country resilience against future disasters through the integration of forestry and agroforestry into national strategies.

16. FAO continues to support TEAKNET, an international network of teak producers and teak-based enterprises. A recent highlight of this support was organization of the Third World Teak Conference “Strengthening Global Teak Resources and Markets for Sustainable Development”, which was held in Ecuador, 11-16 May 2015.

17. With decades of experience in mangrove rehabilitation and management and in community development and community forestry, FAO is a partner in the Mangroves for the Future (MFF) initiative as a member of its Regional Steering Committee. MFF is a partnership-based initiative promoting investments in coastal ecosystems that support sustainable development. Under the MFF, a project titled “Income for Coastal Communities for Mangrove Protection” was initiated by FAO in 2015 to develop mechanisms for financing community-based mangrove protection.

18. FAO continues to strongly promote forest restoration and rehabilitation in Asia and the Pacific. Country support under the FLR Mechanism is being implemented in Cambodia and the Philippines to assess the needs and develop workplans for forest landscape restoration in these countries. An FAO TCP regional project on *Applying Assisted Natural Regeneration (ANR) for Restoring Forest Ecosystem Services in Southeast Asia* served to raise awareness and develop capacity in implementing ANR for forest restoration in Cambodia, Lao PDR and Indonesia. A new TCP project on *Promoting Forest Landscape Restoration (FLR) in Selected Southeast Asian Countries* is being launched covering Cambodia, Lao PDR, Indonesia and Philippines. FAO and RECOFTC have finalized a regional synthesis on forest landscape restoration, which reviewed the status of forest restoration in seven countries in the Asia-Pacific region, and the policy and technical environments for implementing forest landscape restoration in them. Furthermore, FAO collaborated with SEAMEO BIOTROP in organizing an international conference on *Ecological Restoration in Southeast Asia: Challenges, Gains, and Future Directions* in Bogor, Indonesia, October 2015.

19. In collaboration with APFNet, an *Assessment of progress toward the APEC 2020 forest cover objective* was prepared and tabled at the 2015 APEC Meeting of Ministers Responsible for Forestry held in Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea, in October 2015.

20. In collaboration with the Non-Timber Forest Products Exchange Programme (NTFP-EP) a *Regional assessment of Non-wood forest products (NWFPs) related to the cosmetics and fragrances sector* is currently being finalized. The assessment includes representative case studies of 12 NWFPs that contribute to the cosmetics and fragrance sector in the Asia-Pacific region and a synthesis that analyses commonalities and differences among the case studies.

21. FAO has been involved in the formulation and implementation of a number of Global Environment Facility (GEF) projects addressing biodiversity, climate change mitigation, land degradation and SFM/REDD+ focal areas, including in Cambodia, China, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Mongolia, Myanmar, Philippines, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Thailand and the South Pacific.

22. A wide variety of TCP and Trust Fund projects relating to forest resource management are being implemented. These include projects focusing on strengthening national forest inventory and monitoring in Bangladesh, India, Myanmar and Papua New Guinea, forest restoration (upcoming and recently concluded projects in Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR and Philippines), improved forest harvesting (Papua New Guinea and Viet Nam), management of forest invasive species (India and Maldives), and trees outside forests (TOF) as part of FAO’s Regional Rice Initiative Phase II (Indonesia, Lao PDR and Philippines), among others.

23. A number of other activities have been implemented in relation to forestry and climate change in the region. A series of post-UNFCCC COP consultations (post-Warsaw and -Lima) have been held in collaboration with RECOFTC and other partner organizations to synthesize expert views on the implications of decisions taken at each COP for the Asia-Pacific forest sector. Booklets summarizing the consensus views of these consultations have been widely disseminated. Several GEF projects relating to climate change are being implemented, including: 1) *Strengthening the adaptive capacity and resilience of rural communities using micro watershed approaches to climate change and variability to attain sustainable food security in Cambodia*; and 2) *Reducing GHG emissions by promoting community*

forestry, removing barriers to sustainable biomass energy, and laying the groundwork for climate change mitigation in Afghanistan.

### **III. Activities designed to foster greater involvement of people in forestry**

24. The 'Kids-to-Forests' initiative continues to operate in several countries in the region, most actively in the Philippines and Thailand. Kids-to-Forests aims to expose younger generations to the multiple benefits of forests through hands-on learning experiences that can lead to a better understanding of sustainable forest management. As part of International Day of Forests 2015 celebrations, a field excursion for 30 students from international and local schools around Bangkok was organized to Kanchanaburi, Thailand to provide an opportunity to learn about forest restoration and livelihood benefits that forests provide to local communities. In the Philippines, the initiative continued to work through an increasing number of 'Earth Ambassadors' to raise awareness on the importance of sustainable forest management and has formalized the Kids-to-Forests Technical Working Group consisting of government and civil society stakeholders.

25. The Asia-Pacific Forest Communication Network, established in 2013, continues to facilitate information sharing through Google Groups, Facebook Groups and regular Skype meetings. A workshop on *Working with local communities in the forest landscapes: using a participatory development communication (PDC) approach* was held 12-15 May 2015, in Bangkok, Thailand

26. In the Asia-Pacific region, Myanmar, Nepal and Viet Nam are receiving support under the Forest and Farm Facility (FFF). In Nepal, support has been provided to community forestry user groups and a federation of small-scale industries for the establishment of small forest and farm enterprises in two districts and for the initiation of multi-sectoral platforms at the district and national levels. In Myanmar, support is being given to establish township and provincial level Community Forestry Product Organizations in two states and to the Community Forestry National Working Group. In Viet Nam, support to the Vietnam National Farmers Union is helping producers form marketing groups around cinnamon and timber in two provinces and discussion groups have been initiated to identify farmers' priority needs and policy related issues. Finally the Asia Farmers Association has been holding a series of consultations with forest dependent farmers in the region to identify policy related issues for continued advocacy at the national and regional levels.

27. In collaboration with RECOFTC, a multi-country study on *Mainstreaming Gender Issues in Forest Policies of Developing Asia-Pacific Forestry Commission Member Countries* has been completed. The study comprises baseline analysis on gender integration in eight selected countries and development of recommendations for mainstreaming gender in forest policies in the region. A regional synthesis and country briefs have been produced as a result of this study. A manual for capacity building is being finalized.

### **IV. Other activities**

28. The report of the 25th session of the APFC was published. The 10<sup>th</sup> APFC Executive Committee meeting was held in Chiang Mai, Thailand in October 2014, while the 11<sup>th</sup> APFC Executive Committee meeting was held in Bangkok, Thailand in August 2015. The APFC Chair represented the Asia-Pacific region at the 22<sup>nd</sup> Session of the FAO Committee on Forestry (COFO) Rome, Italy in June 2014.

## **ANNEX 1 – RECENT FAO REGIONAL OFFICE FOR ASIA AND THE PACIFIC FORESTRY PUBLICATIONS**

(since the 25<sup>th</sup> Session of APFC)

*Climate-Smart Agriculture: A Call for Action*  
RAP Publication 2015/06

*Forests and Climate Change after Lima: Perspective from the Asia and the Pacific region*  
RAP Publication 2015/04

*Proceedings of the regional seminar-workshop on harmonizing methods in risk assessment and management of forest invasive alien plant species in Southeast Asia*  
RAP Publication 2015/03

*Shifting cultivation, livelihood and food security - New and old challenges for indigenous peoples in Asia*  
FAO, IWGIA and AIPP publication, 2015

*Forests and climate change after Lima An Asia-Pacific perspective*  
May 2015

*Mainstreaming gender into forest policies in Asia and the Pacific*  
January 2015

*Edible insects in Lao PDR: Building on tradition to enhance food security*  
RAP Publication - 2014/12

*Forests and climate change after Warsaw: An Asia-Pacific perspective*  
April 2014

*Report of the Twenty-Fifth Session of the Asia-Pacific Forestry Commission*  
RAP Publication - 2013/15

### Newsletters

- *Tigerpaper/Forest News*
- *INVASIVES* – Newsletter of the Asia-Pacific Forest Invasive Species Network
- *Teaknet Bulletin*

## ANNEX 2 – MEETINGS ORGANIZED OR CO-ORGANIZED BY FAO REGIONAL OFFICE FOR ASIA AND THE PACIFIC FORESTRY TEAM

(since the 25<sup>th</sup> session of APFC)

| <b>Date</b>         | <b>Title</b>  | <b>Venue</b>                     |
|---------------------|---|----------------------------------|
| 29-30 January 2014  | Regional Consultation and Publication on “Forests and climate change after COP19 (Warsaw): An Asia-Pacific perspective”   | Kathmandu, Nepal                 |
| 12-13 February 2014 | Regional Consultation on Forests and Climate Change after COP19 (Warsaw): An Asia-Pacific perspective   | Chiang Mai, Thailand             |
| 21 March 2014       | International Day of Forests – Forestry Debate: Forestry in a changing world  | Bangkok, Thailand                |
| 6-7 May 2014        | Inception Workshop “Control and management of destructive forest invasive species in South Asian natural and plantation forests” (TCP/RAS/3408)                 | Kerala, India                    |
| 12-23 May 2014      | 7th Executive Forest Policy Course: People, Land Use and Forestry in the Pacific – Policy Challenges in the 21st Century  | Nadi, Fiji                       |
| 12 March 2014       | High-Level Forum on “Climate Change and Food Security in The Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States in Asia and the Pacific Region” | Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia            |
| 5-6 May 2014        | Forests Asia Summit 2014: Sustainable Landscapes for Green Growth in Southeast Asia   | Jakarta, Indonesia               |
| 23-24 July 2014     | Expert workshop for the How2Guide for Bioenergy   | Bangkok, Thailand                |
| 8-16 September 2014 | Strengthening Forest Tenure Systems and Governance – Training Module for Facilitators   | Bangkok, Thailand                |
| 20-22 October 2014  | 5th UN-REDD Regional Lessons Learned Workshop: Forest Monitoring Systems and Reference Levels for REDD+   | Hanoi, Viet Nam                  |
| 27-29 October 2014  | 10 <sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Asia-Pacific Forestry Commission Executive Committee  | Bangkok and Chiang Mai, Thailand |
| 24-26 November 2014 | Meeting of the Asia-Pacific Forest Invasive Species Network (APFISN)  | Beijing, China                   |
| 2-5 December 2014   | Regional Seminar-Workshop on Harmonizing Approaches in Risk Analysis and Management of Forest Invasive Species in Southeast Asia                                | Bogor, Indonesia                 |
| 17-19 December 2014 | Workshop on Mainstreaming the Restoration of Degraded Forests into Forestry Strategic Plans   | Phnom Penh, Cambodia             |
| 20-21 January 2015  | Final Workshop on Drivers of Change Affecting Forests in Mekong   | Bangkok, Thailand                |
| 21-22 January 2015  | Southeast Asia Regional Training Workshop: Fire Management Planning for Northern ASEAN States   | Chiang Mai, Thailand             |
| 27-29 January 2015  | Regional Workshop on Estimating Fire Emissions in Southeast Asia  | Chiang Mai, Thailand             |
| 11-12 February 2015 | Regional Inception Workshop on Strengthening Forest Tenure for Sustaining Livelihoods and Generating Income (TCP/RAS/3506)                                      | Kathmandu, Nepal                 |

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| 24-25 February 2015    | Regional Experts Consultation – Implications of Lima for Climate Change and Forests in Asia-Pacific  | Bangkok, Thailand      |
| 24-27 February 2015    | Study tour on edible insects   | Khon Kaen, Thailand    |
| 20 March 2015          | International Day of Forests (Forestry debate)   | Bangkok, Thailand      |
| 21-22 March 2015       | International Day of Forests (Kids-to-Forests field excursion)   | Kanchanaburi, Thailand |
| 22 March -3 April 2015 | The Eighth Executive Forest Policy Course – People, Land Use and Forests in the ASEAN Region: Policy Challenges in the 21st Century              | Naypyidaw, Myanmar     |
| 28-30 April 2015       | Asian Regional Criteria & Indicators Workshop  | Clark, Philippines     |
| 5-6 May 2015           | Inception Workshop “Income for Coastal Communities for Mangrove Protection” project  | Bangkok, Thailand      |
| 12-15 May 2015         | Working with Local Communities in Forest Landscapes: Using a Participatory Development Communication Approach                                    | Bangkok, Thailand      |
| 16-18 June 2015        | Regional workshop on Measuring and Monitoring Forest Degradation Across Asia   | Bangkok, Thailand      |
| 18-20 June 2015        | Regional Workshop on Climate Smart Agriculture: A call for action  | Bangkok, Thailand      |
| 1-3 July 2015          | Regional Forum on Climate Change (RFCC 2015)   | Bangkok, Thailand      |
| 10-12 July 2015        | Pre-WFC regional meeting on people and forests   | Bangkok, Thailand      |
| 29-31 July 2015        | Forests and natural disasters  | Nadi, Fiji             |
| 5-6 August 2015        | 10 <sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Asia-Pacific Forestry Commission Executive Committee   | Bangkok, Thailand      |
| 10-11 August 2015      | Regional Workshop on Forests and Droughts. The Roles of Trees and Forests in Building Resilience Against Droughts                                | Bangkok, Thailand      |
| 12-13 October 2015     | 2 <sup>nd</sup> International Conference on Tropical Biology: Ecological Restoration in Southeast Asia: Challenges, Gains, and Future Directions | Bogor, Indonesia       |
| 12-13 November 2015    | Asia-Pacific Forestry Week 2016 Stream Leaders Coordination Meeting  | Bangkok, Thailand      |
| 19-20 November 2015    | Regional Workshop on Making the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) Work for Agriculture in Asia and the Pacific      | Bangkok, Thailand      |

**ANNEX 3 – RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE 25<sup>th</sup> SESSION OF THE ASIA-PACIFIC FORESTRY COMMISSION AND FOLLOW-UP ACTIONS TAKEN BY FAO**

| Recommendations   | Actions taken  |
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| <i>For the attention of governments and FAO</i>   |  |
| <p>1. Give increased attention to forest landscape restoration, including natural regeneration of forests, and developing natural regeneration strategies to complement intensive planted forest programmes</p>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- A regional TCP project on promoting assisted natural regeneration (ANR) method of forest restoration is being implemented in Cambodia, Indonesia and Lao PDR. Final policy meetings were conducted in each of the project countries in August-September 2015.</li> <li>- Forest and grassland restoration was included as an agenda item for the 32<sup>nd</sup> Session of FAO Regional Conference for Asia and the Pacific held in March 2014, resulting in six recommendations for FAO to further support member countries in promoting forest and grassland restoration. In response to these recommendations, a high-level forum on forest and landscape restoration is being organized in conjunction with the 26<sup>th</sup> APFC session.</li> <li>- At the 22<sup>nd</sup> Session of the FAO Committee on Forestry (COFO) held in June 2014, Forest Landscape Restoration (FLR) Mechanism was launched as a new global programme of FAO to help countries to achieve their commitments towards the Bonn Challenge and the Aichi Targets with regards to forest and landscape restoration. A call for interest to receive support from the FLM Mechanism was issued, and Cambodia and Philippines have been selected.</li> <li>- FAO signed new MOUs with AFoCo and APFNet in 2015 and within the MOUs attention is given to forest landscape restoration.</li> </ul> |
| <p>2. FAO, as a GEF agency, should support the formulation and implementation of new forestry-related GEF projects and programmes, particularly under the upcoming sixth replenishment period of the Facility</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- SFM-related GEF projects are being/have been formulated in Cambodia, China, Lao PDR, Mongolia, Myanmar, Sri Lanka, Thailand and the South Pacific on various aspects of forestry and natural resource management.</li> <li>- In Myanmar, FAO is implementing a GEF project on “Sustainable Cropland and Forest Management in Priority Agro-ecosystems in Myanmar” which was approved by the GEF CEO in March 2015.</li> <li>- In Cambodia, FAO is finalizing a PIF for a GEF project targeting LDCF funds to address climate change adaptation in coastal communities. The project includes a significant mangrove management component.</li> <li>- In the Pacific, GEF projects dealing with improved forestry practices, establishment of forest assessment and monitoring mechanisms and SFM/REDD+ are being implemented in the Solomon Islands, Vanuatu, Kiribati and Tonga under the GEF-5 STAR Allocation.</li> <li>- FAO is implementing a GEF project (GCP/MON/008 /GFF) on “Mainstreaming biodiversity conservation, SFM and carbon sink enhancement into Mongolia’s productive</li> </ul>   |

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|  | <p>forest landscapes” (2014-2018).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- FAO has completed a PIF under Thailand’s GEF-6 STAR allocation, entitled ‘Sustainable Forest and Land Management for Improved Livelihoods and Ecosystems’ with a budget of USD 6.75 million, to be submitted to GEF Secretariat in first quarter of 2016.</li> <li>- FAO is working with a number of countries in the Asia-Pacific region to formulate GEF projects addressing biodiversity, climate change mitigation, land degradation and SFM/REDD+ focal areas, which are under various stages of development.</li> </ul>   |
| <p>3. Member countries explore opportunities to interface activities on building community resilience with the International Year of Family Farming (2014)</p>               | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- FAO collaborated MS Swaminathan Research Foundation (MSSRF) organized a regional consultation forum on the Role of Family Farming in the 21st Century: Achieving the Zero Hunger Challenges by 2025 on 7-10 August, in Chennai, India. This consultation resulted in the Chennai Declaration with the objective of formulating and shaping policy and development work, for building a more equitable region, contributing to a hunger-free world.</li> </ul>  |
| <p>4. Member countries participate actively in the 2015 Global Forest Resources Assessment and submit their reports in a timely manner</p>                                   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- All member countries in the region have submitted their country reports for the Global Forest Resources Assessments (FRA) 2015 through the Collaborative Forest Resources Questionnaire (CFRQ). Country submissions have been finalized in discussion with the FRA country focal points, and FRA 2015 was published during the World Forestry Congress in Durban, South Africa, September 2015.</li> </ul>   |
| <p>5. Member countries report on progress in developing new wood-processing capacity at subsequent APFC sessions</p>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Countries are encouraged to make brief reports on any significant development of new wood processing capacity during the State of Forestry in the region agenda item at the 26<sup>th</sup> APFC session agenda.</li> </ul>  |
| <p>6. Seize the opportunity for promoting the importance of the forestry sector that is presented by growing recognition of the links between forests and climate change</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- At the 21<sup>st</sup> Conference of Parties (COP) of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) in Paris in December 2015, an international agreement was reached to address anthropogenic climate change (the ‘Paris Agreement’). FAO continues as a partner in the UN Collaborative Programme on REDD+ (UN-REDD), along with UNDP and UNEP. The first phase of the UN-REDD Programme concluded at end 2015. A second phase of the Programme is now underway for 2016-2020. Nineteen countries in Asia and the Pacific are member countries of the UN-REDD Programme and therefore eligible for technical and advisory support from FAO in order to become ready to participate in an international REDD+ mechanism, which is endorsed under Article 5 of the Paris Agreement.</li> <li>- The 32nd session of the FAO Regional Conference for Asia and the Pacific (March 2014) recognized the importance of restoration of grasslands and forests for climate change mitigation and adaptation, and the promotion of ecosystem services.</li> </ul> |

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|  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The seventh executive forest policy short course held in Nadi, Fiji (12-23 May 2014) and the eighth executive forest policy short course held in Myanmar (22 March – 3 April 2015) were designed to provide insights on the implications of climate change on the Pacific and ASEAN countries and discuss options available to address the challenges through better policy development and implementation.</li> <li>- Through a global event on International Day of Forests (March 2014 and 2015), FAO promoted the importance of forests and trees, vis-à-vis climate change, in ensuring the sustainability of ecosystems, providing valuable goods and services, and supporting livelihoods and reducing hunger. Many awareness raising events and campaigns on forestry and climate change related themes were observed in many countries of the region.</li> <li>- FAO convened a Discussion Forum at the Forest Asia Summit on sustainable landscapes, green growth and poverty reduction. The event involved speakers from private sector, ASEAN-led initiative on social forestry, FAO, AFoCo, etc. It was well attended.</li> </ul>  |
| <p>7. Work to increase disaster preparedness and build greater understanding of the roles of trees and forests in mitigating natural disasters and supporting post-disaster recovery</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- A draft roadmap for a regional strategy on forests and natural disasters has been prepared and will be used as the basis for consultations on development of a regional strategy on forests and natural disasters.</li> <li>- A workshop on Forests and Natural Disasters in the Pacific was convened in Nadi Fiji in July 2015. The workshop particularly focused on the use of trees and forests to mitigate the impacts of cyclones and tsunamis.</li> <li>- FAO has engaged a research organization based in the Philippines (ESSC) to conduct an assessment and develop a publication on forests and droughts.</li> <li>- A project titled “Income for Coastal Communities for Mangrove Protection” was initiated in 2015 to develop mechanisms for financing community-based mangrove protection. The project is funded by IUCN and is being implemented by FAO under the Mangroves for the Future (MFF) initiative.</li> <li>- FAO has mobilized over USD 39.7 million to support the Philippines to cope with and recover from Typhoon Haiyan. Efforts have also been placed on supporting post-disaster recovery and increasing country resilience against future disasters through the integration of forestry and agroforestry into national strategies. Specifically, FAO helps 32,500 small scale coconut farmers build alternative livelihoods and providing 3,000 upland framers with seedlings and training to rehabilitate agroforestry systems. FAO is promoting the natural regeneration of coastal ecosystems and the recovery and protection of related livelihoods by distributing seeds and planting materials.</li> </ul> |

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| <p>8. Provide technical support to build capacities in member countries to address climate change adaptation at policy levels and to strengthen resilience and implementation of climate change adaptation measures at community levels</p>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Through a government cooperation programme supported by the U.S. government, FAO is implementing a project in Bangladesh on “Strengthening the Environment, Forestry and Climate Change Capacities of the Ministry of the Environment and Forestry and its agencies (GCP/BGD/053/USA).</li> </ul>  |
| <p>9. Support the development of a stand-alone sustainable development goal on forests and emphasized the need to raise the profile of forests in the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and that member countries actively engage in the discussions on a forest-related SDG through the Open Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals established through the Rio+20 process</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- FAO encouraged member countries to propose stand-alone SDG goals on forestry through the representatives based in New York.</li> <li>- This recommendation was also brought forwarded to the 22<sup>nd</sup> Session of COFO.</li> <li>- Member countries actively sought to ensure forest issues were adequately addressed in the SDGs and worked to secure balance between protection aspects and sustainable use of forests.</li> <li>- FAO helped member countries to identify 14 thematic areas to its work in contributing technical knowledge to support the Open Working Group (OWG) on Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).</li> <li>- Based on its expertise in these 14 themes, FAO co-led the preparation of inter-agency issues briefs on sustainable agriculture (with IFAD) and food security and nutrition (with WFP and IFAD) at the 3rd OWG in May 2013, and, together with UNEP, co-led the preparation of issues briefs on oceans and seas, forests and biodiversity at the 8th OWG in February 2014.</li> <li>- FAO co-led technical inputs among UN agencies for three of the 17 goals and 169 targets in the post-2015 development agenda concluded by the OWG on SDGs.</li> <li>- FAO has prepared an extensive information kit accessible through the post-2015 development agenda website. The kit provides a broad coverage of FAO’s technical expertise and focus in sustainable development, including involvement in the post-2015 development agenda and background to the UN’s global development goals.</li> </ul> |
| <p>10. Forestry interests should be strongly represented in national delegations and/or in national processes to develop priorities for presentation to the FAO Regional Conference for Asia and the Pacific</p>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Forest and grassland restoration was featured as an agenda item at the 32nd session of the FAO Regional Conference for Asia and the Pacific (APRC), which ensured the inclusion of forestry interest in the discussions and national processes to develop priorities for presentation to APRC. However, the makeup of the national delegations remained largely from the agricultural sector.</li> </ul>   |
| <p><b><i>For the attention of FAO</i></b></p>  |   |
| <p>1. Assist countries in understanding and accessing sources of forest financing and in preparing high-quality proposals for seeking financing</p>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- FAO has been assisting and working with a number of member countries in preparing proposals for GEF funding and other donors to seek financing for forestry-related projects.</li> <li>- In 2015, FAO launched an IUCN-funded project titled</li> </ul>  |

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|  | <p>“Income for Coastal Communities for Mangrove Protection” which aims to develop mechanisms for financing community-based mangrove protection.</p>   |
| <p>2. Collaborate with partner organizations, the private sector and other FLEGT support programmes to raise awareness on evolving international demand-side legality requirements, through regional information or training workshops and other mechanisms, giving particular attention to supporting the needs of small-scale producers and increased engagement with the private sector</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Since the start of the FAO-FLEGT Programme in Asia in October 2013 (2<sup>nd</sup> Phase), a number of country-specific grants in support of private sector associations (in Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Viet Nam) and small-scale producers/communities (in Cambodia, Indonesia, Myanmar, Nepal and Viet Nam) have been initiated.</li> <li>- With the start of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Phase (2015-2020), the Programme will seek to further improve enabling conditions under which the timber industry operates and to promote cultural changes within global, regional and national forest products markets whereby legal and transparent operation is the norm. The programme will operate in the six countries currently engaged in VPAs as well as a smaller number or strategically important “non-VPA” countries.</li> <li>- Significant funding will be dedicated to a Private Sector Specific Outcome (3) “The capacity of the private sector to participate in the production, marketing and trade of legal timber has increased.” With the following specific objectives: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Large Companies trading at national, regional and international level are informed and trained on the FLEGT Action Plan, international trade requirement, and specific practices to improve legality and sustainability of their operations;</li> <li>2) Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) are working together in effective grouping structures which provide technical resources and capacity building, to increase legal operation, market access, and advocacy for change; and</li> <li>3) Public –Private relationships are strengthened and public purchasing policies in place to increase demand for legally produced timber.</li> </ul> </li> <li>- In addition to global calls for proposals encouraging private sector applications, direct assistance grants will also become accessible to private sector associations which was not the case under the 2<sup>nd</sup> Phase of the Programme.</li> <li>- Information services will be reinforced to better respond to the needs of the private sector. Enhanced private sector mapping, situational analysis and needs assessments will result in more focused awareness-raising and training events as well as better promotional/information materials.</li> </ul> |
| <p>3. Explore the potential for establishing a regional mechanism for sharing information related to trade in illegally logged timber in collaboration with other partners and member countries</p>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- A joint FAO-UNODC Feasibility Study on “Information sharing on wildlife and timber trafficking in the ASEAN Region” was conducted to assess the potential and relevance of existing information sharing mechanisms. Findings and recommendations were presented at the ASEAN Senior Officials Meeting on Transnational Crime (SOMTC) technical workshop on transnational environmental crime in Bangkok (April 2015) and</li> </ul>  |

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|   | <p>ASEAN- Wildlife Enforcement Network (WEN) meeting in Brunei (May 2015). Follow-up activities and pilots by FAO and UNODC will be discussed with clusters of member countries.</p>  |
| <p>4. Build awareness of the Voluntary Guidelines on Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries and Forests, through regional and national workshops and training-of-trainers, and facilitating the sharing of experiences and approaches in implementing the Guidelines</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- FAO is implementing a regional Technical Cooperation Programme (TCP) on “Strengthening Forest Tenure for Sustaining Livelihoods and Generating Income” to enhance the contribution of forests to the livelihoods and income of forest dependent communities. The expected project outcome is “strengthened regulatory frameworks and institutional capacity of pilot countries on forest tenure”.</li> <li>- FAO organized a nine-day training (8-16 September 2014) for facilitators on “Strengthening Forest Tenure Systems and Governance” for seven Asian countries namely Cambodia, Indonesia, Myanmar, Nepal, Lao PDR, Thailand, and Viet Nam. The training aimed to strengthen key forestry facilitators to improve their in-country facilitation in support of forest tenure reform and improved governance of forest tenure reform.</li> </ul>  |
| <p>5. Conduct additional analysis on the impacts of drivers of change on forests</p>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- FAO completed a study on “Drivers of change affecting forests in the Mekong: Toward the formulation of action plans for Greater Mekong Sub-region countries”. A regional workshop was conducted in November 2014, and a regional policy brief was published in July 2015, country reports, regional synthesis and a regional action plan for GMS were finalized in October 2015.</li> </ul>  |
| <p>6. Build resilience in forests, landscapes and forest-dependent communities to natural disasters, including developing a regional action plan in relation to forests and natural disasters</p>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- A draft roadmap for a regional strategy on forests and natural disasters has been prepared. The roadmap identifies and helps to priorities areas of potential advantage for information and knowledge sharing in relation to forests and natural disasters in various countries and sub-regions as well proposing potential approaches, opportunities for partnerships and a process for developing a regional strategy.</li> <li>- A project titled “Income for Coastal Communities for Mangrove Protection” was initiated in 2015 to develop mechanisms for financing community-based mangrove protection. The project is funded by IUCN and is being implemented by FAO under the Mangroves for the Future (MFF) initiative.</li> <li>- FAO joined with numerous other international organizations in supporting recovery efforts in the Philippines following Typhoon Haiyan (November 2013); working in collaboration with Philippine Government agencies, support is being given for forestry and agroforestry recovery activities, rehabilitation of coastal beach and mangrove forests, soil erosion control, nursery rehabilitation, disaster risk assessment, and measures to build resilience against future disasters.</li> <li>- FAO is collaborating with the Royal Government of Bhutan in implementing a project on “Strengthening the Role of Communities in Climate Change Mitigation</li> </ul> |

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|   | <p>through Participatory Forest Management” (2014-2015).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- FAO is supporting the implementation of a five-year GEF LDCF project on “Strengthening the adaptive capacity and resilience of rural communities using micro watershed approaches to climate change and variability to attain sustainable food security in Cambodia (FSP)”.</li> <li>- FAO has published a special issue of Unasylva “Forests, Trees and Disasters” addressing the roles and opportunities for forests and forestry in post-disaster recovery and disaster risk reduction.</li> <li>- FAO is developing projects to build resilience of communities affected by and/or vulnerable to landslides in Nepal and Indonesia.</li> </ul>  |
| 7. Produce a knowledge product on forests and droughts in Asia and the Pacific  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- FAO has engaged the Environmental Science for Social Change (ESSC) to conduct an assessment on the roles of trees and forests in building community resilience against droughts and the resulting publication is being finalized for publication.</li> </ul>   |
| 8. Provide technical support for strengthening national capacities for forest monitoring and assessment, and efforts to harmonize data collection and reporting | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- FAO provides support to the development of National Forest Monitoring Systems through the UN-REDD programme in Bangladesh, Bhutan, Cambodia, Fiji, India, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Mongolia, Myanmar, Nepal, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, the Philippines, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Sri Lanka, Vanuatu and Viet Nam, through the development and dissemination of normative guidance documents and capacity building events.</li> <li>- Through UN-REDD country programmes in Bangladesh, Cambodia, Mongolia, Myanmar, Papua New Guinea, Sri Lanka and Viet Nam, FAO develops Action Plans for National Forest Monitoring Systems (NFMS) in the context of REDD+, covering activities for the development of Satellite Land Monitoring Systems, National Forest Inventories and Greenhouse Gas Inventories for the Forest Sector</li> <li>- Through UN-REDD Targeted Support, FAO has supported Bhutan in the completion of their National Forest Inventory and the analysis of NFI results; Pakistan in the finalization of an NFMS Action Plan and capacity building for NFI development and satellite monitoring; and Fiji, Solomon Islands and Vanuatu through a regional Pacific Islands initiative for satellite forest monitoring.</li> <li>- In Papua New Guinea, in parallel with UN-REDD support, FAO is implementing “Technical support to the Papua New Guinea Forest Authority to implement a multi-purpose National Forest Inventory” (GCP/PNG/006/EC) funded by the European Union.</li> <li>- Through the UN-REDD programme, FAO supports the development of regional and country-specific allometric equations which allow the development of accurate growth</li> </ul> |

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|  | <p>models and emission factors</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Through the UN-REDD programme, FAO has organized regional ‘lessons learned’ programmes on National Forest Monitoring Systems and Reference Emission Levels in Bangkok and Hanoi. In collaboration with USAID and EU-funded regional projects, FAO/UN-REDD organized a regional workshop on measuring forest degradation in Bangkok in June 2015.</li> <li>- FAO has continued to support and provide capacity building to member countries in reporting of national forest monitoring data under the Global Forest Resources Assessment (FRA) 2015.</li> <li>- FAO is preparing an information product on “Forestry Facts and Figures in Asia and the Pacific summarizing data from national reports to FRA 2015 and FAOSTAT.</li> <li>- FAO is supporting AFoCo to assess and address capacity building needs towards FRA 2020 by providing technical inputs and resource persons to meetings (one meeting was held in November 2014 and another in November 2015).</li> <li>- FAO is supporting the implementation of a TCP project in Myanmar on “Strengthening Myanmar’s National Forest Monitoring System – Land Use Assessment and Capacity Building (TCP/MYA/3501)</li> <li>- FAO has supported the implementation of a project on “Promoting sustainable forest management by developing effective systems of forest planning, monitoring and control in Papua New Guinea (GCP/PNG/003/AUL). The project focused on strengthening elements of the Logging Code of Practice, particularly with a focus on RIL, road building and silviculture.</li> <li>- A new USAID-funded “Strengthening National Forest Inventory and Satellite Land Monitoring System in support of REDD+ in Bangladesh” has been launched and an inception workshop is planned for January 2016.</li> </ul> |
| <p>9. Continue to give high priority to promoting forest landscape restoration and forest rehabilitation, including giving attention to watershed management and soil and water conservation</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The Forest Landscape Restoration (FLR) Mechanism was launched at the 22<sup>nd</sup> COFO in June 2014 as a new global programme of FAO to help countries to achieve their commitments towards the Bonn Challenge and the Aichi Targets with regards to forest and landscape restoration. A call for interest to receive support from the FLM Mechanism has been issued, and Cambodia and Philippines have been selected.</li> <li>- A regional TCP project on promoting assisted natural regeneration (ANR) method of forest restoration has been completed in Cambodia, Indonesia and Lao PDR.</li> <li>- Forest and grassland restoration was included as an agenda item for the 32<sup>nd</sup> Session of FAO Regional Conference for Asia and the Pacific held in March 2014, resulting in six recommendations for FAO to further support member countries in promoting forest and grassland restoration.</li> </ul>  |

- In response to the 32<sup>nd</sup> APRC recommendations related to forest and grassland restoration, a high-level forum on forest and landscape restoration is being organized in conjunction with the 26<sup>th</sup> APFC session.
- FAO is finalizing a regional synthesis on forest landscape restoration in collaboration with member countries and RECOFTC. The study reviewed the status of forest restoration in seven countries in the Asia-Pacific region, and the policy and technical environments for implementing forest landscape restoration in them. Based on these findings, FAO and RECOFTC are exploring the means to support the countries in the region to expand the forest restoration activities at the national levels.
- FAO is collaborating with the International Model Forest Network and APFNet to implement a project on “Forest Restoration at the Landscape Level in Asia: A Unique Model Forest Approach.” The project aims to build the capacity of communities, local officials and other partners to rehabilitate forests as a means to restore degraded land, increase forest cover, improve forest quality and enhance livelihoods.
- FAO collaborated with SEAMEO BIOTROP in organizing an international conference on “Ecological Restoration in Southeast Asia: Challenges, Gains, and Future Directions” in Bogor, Indonesia, October 2015.
- FAO has continued to support member countries in building their capacity in developing natural regeneration of forests strategies through a regional TCP project in Cambodia, Indonesia and Lao PDR on “Applying assisted natural regeneration (ANR) for restoring forest ecosystem services in Southeast Asia”, which was completed in September 2015.
- FAO has been supporting the formulation or implementation of a number of GEF projects with a strong forest restoration component, including in Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Mongolia, Philippines, Pakistan, Sri Lanka and Viet Nam.
- FAO working together with IUCN as the lead and UNEP have submitted to the GEF Secretariat a proposal for a GEF program titled “The Restoration Initiative” worth around USD 54 million of GEF financing, with ten countries and 11 national child projects.
- FAO has developed an umbrella program proposal for a global watershed management program, linked to climate change issues.
- FAO is developing a Forest Landscape Restoration Programmatic Approach under GEF in partnership with IUCN and UNEP, which will be discussed at the next GEF Council Meeting in October 2015. Several potential child projects from the region have been identified.
- FAO continues to collaborate with the UPLB Institute of Agroforestry in producing APANews, a newsletter devoted

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|   | to disseminating and promoting knowledge and experience related to agroforestry development.   |
| 10. Develop a regional action plan on gender mainstreaming into forest policies in collaboration with partner organizations   | - In collaboration with RECOFTC, a multi-country study on mainstreaming gender into forest policies in Asia and the Pacific has been implemented. The study comprises baseline analysis on gender integration in eight selected countries and development of recommendations for mainstreaming gender in forest policies in the region. A regional synthesis and country briefs have been produced as a result of this study. A manual for capacity building is being finalized.   |
| 11. Assist countries in understanding and responding to international agreements, participating in dialogues and formulating proposals for donor support                                | - FAO supported CBD in organizing two capacity building workshops for South, Central, Southeast and North Asia to develop the capacity of member countries in developing and implementing National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs).<br>- In collaboration with RECOFTC, FAO organized expert discussions on the key outcomes of COP 19 and 20 negotiations to provide forest sector stakeholders in the region with succinct and accurate information on the implications of COP discussions and their significance to forest policy decisions and practice.<br>- FAO supported national workshops and processes in India and Mongolia on implementation of the Non-legally Binding Instrument on All Types of Forests.  |
| 12. Explore mechanisms to support special diagnostic missions to interested countries with a view toward fostering an enabling environment for rational and competitive wood processing | - FAO has not received any requests from member countries to field such missions and no activities have been undertaken to address this recommendation.<br>-   |
| 13. Work closely with partner organizations within the framework of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change to support REDD+ initiatives                              | - Through the UN-REDD programme, FAO works in the context of the 'One UN' approach with UNDP and UNEP to support countries across the world in their efforts towards REDD+ Readiness. In Asia and the Pacific, the programme works in Bangladesh, Bhutan, Cambodia, Fiji, India, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Mongolia, Myanmar, Nepal, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, the Philippines, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Sri Lanka, Vanuatu and Viet Nam<br>- FAO's main contribution to the UN-REDD Programme in the region is the development of National Forest Monitoring Systems (NFMS) and Forest Reference Levels (FRL), two of the four key elements that countries need to develop under an international REDD+ mechanism<br>- Throughout 2015, FAO implemented a series of national and regional events and support to enable countries in Asia and the Pacific to submit national FRLs to the UNFCCC. This included a regional workshop for countries with some experience of FRLs (Cambodia, Indonesia, Malaysia, Nepal and Viet Nam), a regional training event for Pacific countries, and national FRLs strategy workshops in Bhutan, |

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|  | <p>Cambodia, Myanmar, PNG, Sri Lanka and Viet Nam.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- In Viet Nam, the UN-REDD programme has developed into a ‘phase II’ programme, where work concentrates on demonstration of a results-based payments system for policies, measures and actions on the ground which are designed to reduce net emissions from the forest sector. This programme will serve as a global pilot. In this programme, FAO supports the development of provincial REDD+ action plans and the implementation of actions identified in these plans, in addition to the work on NFMS and FRL development.</li> <li>- The Cambodia UN-REDD National Programme terminated in June 2015, but the support to the country continued through a planned, seamless transition to the World Bank’s Forest Carbon Partnership Facility (FCPF), following the same national Roadmap and results framework. Through FCPF, FAO continues support for development of NFMS and FRL and has finalized the design of a National Forest Inventory and Greenhouse Gas Inventory. FAO is also participating in the development of a comprehensive National REDD+ Strategy responding to the elements in the ‘Warsaw Framework’.</li> <li>- In Indonesia, FAO supported the UN Office for REDD+ Coordination (UNORCID) throughout 2014-2015 to develop and implement proposals for demonstration activities and results-based payments under the Letter of Intent between Norway and Indonesia, and in developing and piloting a Participatory Governance Assessment (PGA) to complement efforts to develop a national Safeguards Information System (SIS) for REDD+.</li> <li>- In Mongolia, FAO is supporting the Climate Change Project Implementation Unit to develop information on historical Forest and Land Use change (Activity Data) so that the country can submit a Greenhouse Gas Inventory to the UNFCCC within 2015. A full UN-REDD National Programme for Mongolia has been approved and will be initiated in early 2016.</li> <li>- In Myanmar, FAO has contributed to the development of a REDD+ Readiness Roadmap, under the UN-REDD programme. Since January 2015, FAO has been providing dedicated in-country support to the government, through UN-REDD targeted support, to develop NFMS and FRL as part of Roadmap implementation. A full UN-REDD National Programme for Myanmar was approved in May 2015 and will be initiated in early 2016.</li> <li>- In Nepal, through UN-REDD targeted support, FAO has initiated the development of monitoring protocols for REDD+ policies and measures through proxy indicators, and a review of Institutional, policy, legislative and regulatory status in the context of REDD+. Support for the development of a national FRL was initiated in late 2015 and will continue throughout 2016.</li> <li>- In Pakistan, FAO supported the development of a NFMS</li> </ul> |
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|   | <p>Action Plan, and built capacity for the implementation of this plan through technical training events. FAO has assisted the Office of the Inspector General of Forests in developing a proposal for the implementation of the technical elements of the World Bank's Forest Carbon Partnership Facility (FCPF) Readiness Programme, and has conducted a study into the institutional, policy, legal and regulatory environment in Pakistan in the context of REDD+.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- In Sri Lanka, FAO is the lead agency in the UN-REDD National Programme and has supported the establishment of a Programme Management Unit, a review of Institutional, policy, legislative and regulatory status in the context of REDD+, and initiation of a NFMS action plan.</li> <li>- In Papua New Guinea, FAO supports the design and initiation of a National Forest Inventory (NFI) and satellite monitoring system, and the development of a draft forest reference emission level for submission to the UNFCCC. In 2015, a new EU-funded project to establish and implement an NFI in PNG was launched.</li> <li>- In Bangladesh, FAO is implementing a series of national training events on satellite monitoring systems, geo-portal development and greenhouse gas inventory through UN-REDD targeted support. A full UN-REDD National Programme has been approved and will be initiated in early 2016. Also in Bangladesh, FAO is supporting the implementation of a new project "Strengthening National Forest Inventory and Satellite Land Monitoring System in support of REDD+ in Bangladesh (GCP/BGD/058/USA)".</li> <li>- FAO is collaborating with SPC for the implementation of a regional project to strengthen national forest monitoring systems for REDD+ in the Pacific. This project is delivering capacity building to all Pacific Island Countries on forest inventory and forest monitoring.</li> </ul> |
| <p>14. Support regional sharing of information, forest data and experiences related to the roles of forests in climate change adaptation, in collaboration with other international and regional partners and established mechanisms</p>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- A concept note for conducting an assessment on community-based adaptation to climate change was formulated. The focus of the work shifted to Climate-Smart Agriculture (CSA). Under this theme, a regional workshop was conducted (June 2015) to document and share experiences on best CSA practices.</li> </ul>  |
| <p>15. Strengthen FAO's role in the global forest architecture, especially the Collaborative Partnership on Forests, taking into account the review of the international arrangement on forests to be conducted for the eleventh session of the United Nations Forum on Forests in 2015</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The APFC Secretariat has responded to the UNFF questionnaire for the eleventh session of the UNFF Forum reporting on its regional activities and initiatives.</li> <li>- FAO participated and contributed to a UNFF workshop on integrating climate and forest financing in Southeast Asia, held in March 2015.</li> <li>- FAO continues to play a key role in chairing the CPF.</li> <li>- FAO participated in and provided a presentation on forest financing at an UNFF workshop on "Integrating Climate and Forest Financing in Southeast Asia" organized in Bangkok, Thailand, March 2015.</li> </ul>   |

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| 16. Support the process of consideration and development of a sustainable development goal (SDG) on forests and particularly the development of relevant targets and indicators  | See recommendation 9 above for the attention of Governments and FAO.  |
| 17. Provide training on the use of the sustainable forest management (SFM) Toolbox when completed  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The SFM Toolbox, an interactive web platform to support knowledge sharing for sustainable forest management implementation at local, sub-national and national levels, was launched at the 22nd session of COFO in June 2014.</li> <li>- Additional modules of the Toolbox are being developed and refined.</li> <li>- Consideration is currently being given to appropriate capacity development work to promote the use of the Toolbox.</li> </ul>   |
| 18. Continue work with other organizations to harmonize definitions and streamline forest-related reporting, building on the work of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests Task Force on Streamlining Forest-related Reporting and on the Collaborative Forest Resources Questionnaire      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- All member countries in the region have submitted country reports for FRA 2015 using the Collaborative Forest Resources Questionnaire (CFRQ). The CFRQ was developed with ITTO and other regional data collection partners in cooperation with countries of the Montreal Process to collect data on selected variables just once, to be shared among the data collection partners. The use of CFRQ has been an important step forward in reducing reporting burden and improving data consistency</li> </ul>   |
| 19. Strengthen international cooperation on fire-related activities and support regional networks and initiatives  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- A PIF for a GEF LDCF project on fire management in Myanmar was finalized, partly to address Myanmar's commitments under the ASEAN Transboundary Haze Agreement. The PIF is under revision to address review comments from the GEF Secretariat.</li> <li>- FAO contributed to the organization of a series of two fire-related trainings in January 2015 (one of integrated fire management and another on estimating emissions from fire). The trainings were organized by USAID LEAF program, USFS, Thailand Department of National Parks, Global Environment Centre and FAO.</li> <li>- The International Wildfire Conference took place in Pyeongchang, Korea from 12 to 16 October, organized with support from FAO. The Pyeongchang declaration called upon COP21 to recommend Integrated Fire Management as a means to reduce emission.</li> </ul> |
| 20. Develop methodologies, standard definitions and terminology to support the collection, analysis and reporting of data on the contributions of trees and forests to food security and nutrition, and to provide guidance and assistance to member countries in implementing such activities | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- FAO is currently implementing the Regional Rice Initiative (RRI) Phase II, which includes capacity building and assessment on Trees outside Forests (TOF) to enable informed decision-making that optimize tree and forest resources for sustainable development and food security. Countries included in this Initiative are Indonesia, Lao PDR and the Philippines. The RRI is expected to continue in the next biennium (2016-2018)</li> <li>- Publications were finalized on under-utilized indigenous foods in Asia-Pacific (including forest foods) and edible insects in Lao PDR.</li> </ul>  |

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| <p>21. Explore the potential for incorporating a high-level ministerial component as part of the XIV World Forestry Congress.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- The Commission's recommendation was conveyed to the XIV WFC Secretariat.</li><li>- A Forestry Officer (Japanese national) had been working to coordinate and support the organization of XIV WFC, particularly in promoting high-level participation by member countries in the region at the Congress.</li></ul> |
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