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Продовольственная и
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**PREPARATION OF *THE STATE OF THE WORLD'S FOREST
GENETIC RESOURCES:*
DRAFT GUIDELINES FOR COUNTRY REPORTS**

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THE ESSENTIAL ROLE OF COUNTRY REPORTS

A Strategic Assessment

Preparation of a Country Report is the most important step in the process for preparing *The Report on the State of the World's Forest Genetic Resources*. The preparatory process should be considered a strategic planning exercise and the report itself a strategic tool for the better assessment and sustainable management of forest genetic resources in your country. Preparation of a Country Report provides an opportunity to engage and stimulate the interests of a wide range of stakeholders to reflect on the state of forest genetic resources in the country, on what has been accomplished and what remains to be done, and to see what needs are required to achieve their conservation and sustainable use.

To ensure that their Country Report provides a basis for planning the conservation, sustainable use and development of forest genetic resources at the national level and contribute to regional and global actions, countries should carefully and comprehensively assess:

- The state of forest genetic resources in the country and their roles in production systems, including associated biodiversity and the factors driving changes;
- The current contribution of forest genetic resources to sustainable forest development, and food and agriculture;
- How the contribution of forest genetic resources to sustainable forest development, and food and agriculture can be enhanced, identifying opportunities and obstacles, as well as strategies to realize the opportunities and overcome any obstacles;
- Needs and priorities for capacity building to enable the conservation, sustainable use and development of forest genetic resources.

I. INTRODUCTION

1. Genetic resources, including forest genetic resources, are among the most valuable assets that a country possesses. The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) has for many decades acknowledged the importance of forest genetic resources. In 1967, the FAO Conference recognized that forest genetic diversity was increasingly being lost and requested the establishment of the Panel of Experts on Forest Gene Resources (the Forest Gene Panel), to help plan and coordinate FAO's efforts to manage genetic resources of forest trees. FAO's activities on forest genetic resources are an integral part of the FAO Forestry Programme, and contribute to other programme components, such as national forest programmes, sustainable forest management, tree breeding and plantation development, protected areas management and global forest resources assessments.
2. For many decades, the Forest Gene Panel has guided FAO's work on forest genetic resources and reporting on progress made to the Committee on Forestry (COFO). This guidance has helped to ensure that forest biological diversity, at all levels, is conserved, managed and sustainably utilized in support of local and national forest development, including food security, poverty alleviation, environmental conservation, economic and social advancement and the maintenance of cultural and spiritual values.
3. The FAO Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (the Commission) is a FAO intergovernmental body, which has 161 members, and is the major international forum for developing policies on genetic resources for food and agriculture. At its Eleventh Session, the Commission acknowledged the urgency to conserve and sustainably utilize forest genetic resources to support food security, poverty alleviation and environmental sustainability; and approved the inclusion of forest genetic resources in its Multi-Year Programme of Work (MYPOW). It also agreed to the preparation of a country-driven first report on *The State of the World's Forest Genetic Resources* (SoW-FGR).
4. The Commission requested its Secretariat to prepare a scoping paper¹ on the SoW-FGR in which existing information sources should be analysed, main gaps in coverage identified, and details of a proposed work programme and budget outlined. It agreed that this scoping paper on key issues in forest genetic resources and the preparatory process would be presented to the Commission at its Twelfth Regular Session, with a view to considering the SoW-FGR at the Commission's Fourteenth Regular Session. The proposed process includes the need for preparation of Country Report preparatory guidelines, in consultation with countries and regional networks, which are to be used for the collection and assembly of existing data and information for Country Reports, which will then be used to prepare the first report on the SoW-FGR.
5. The Commission recommended that COFO and the FAO Regional Forestry Commissions be fully involved in the preparation of State of the World Report, and that work be undertaken in synergy with relevant regional and global programmes and instruments, such as the Convention on Biological Diversity and the United Nations Forum on Forests. The Thirty-fourth Session of the FAO Conference welcomed the Commission's decision to undertake preparation of a report on the (SoW-FGR) within its MYPOW.
6. During its 15th Session, the Forest Gene Panel highlighted the importance of examining a number of key issues in assessing the status and trends of forest genetic resources management, including: climate change, bioenergy, poverty reduction, forestry products supply enhancement, and new and traditional methods and technologies in genetic conservation and tree breeding. As much as feasible, the impact of these issues on forest genetic resources will be examined in preparation of the SoW-FGR with several of these issues being addressed through thematic background studies. A proposed table of content for the SoW-FGR has been elaborated.

¹ CGRFA-12/09/12

7. On its Twelfth Session, the Commission will consider in its agenda the feasibility of the establishment of an Intergovernmental Technical Working Group on Forest Genetic Resources (ITWG)² and the modalities of its functioning and relationship with the FAO Forest Gene Panel.

8. Preparation of the Country Report on Forest Genetic Resources is the most crucial first step and essential input for the preparation of the first report on the SoW-FGR. Country reports will provide the strategic information for its elaboration and a foundation for setting country, regional and global priorities, contributing to the establishment of a consolidated Global Plan of Action. Accordingly, FAO will assist countries on request, and as resources allow, to prepare their Country Reports, including providing available data and information.

II. OBJECTIVES OF THESE GUIDELINES

9. These guidelines have been prepared by FAO to assist countries to undertake preparation of their *Country Report on Forest Genetic Resources*. They constitute the main reference documentation for the country reporting process. The guidelines have been designed to underpin three important interrelated functions, to:

- Assist countries to undertake a strategic assessment of their forest genetic resources in the framework of their National Forest Programmes. This task is to go beyond a description of the resources. It requires a strategic analysis to report on the current state of resources and capacities to manage them, drawing upon lessons from past experiences and identifying needs and priorities. A basic and an expanded questionnaire have been provided in these guidelines to assist countries to examine the current state, past efforts and to look to the future, to assess needs, demands, trends and national capacity building requirements in all aspects of the sustainable management of forest genetic resources.
- Provide a common framework for countries to report globally on the state of their forest genetic resources, on conservation, development and sustainable use activities, needs and priorities. This common framework is crucial to facilitate regional and global analysis and synthesis, as well as to provide a background for updating, ensuring that strategic investments in forest genetic resources are directed towards national, regional and global priorities. The guidelines provide flexibility to enable countries to identify their specific differences and highlight their priority needs, while securing a common basis from which to enable the FAO global assessment preparation.
- **Enable in future preparation** of a *Global Plan of action for the Forest Genetic Resources*, should the Commission decide on the need for such a *Plan*.

III. RECOMMENDED SCOPE, STRUCTURE AND CONTENT

The Scope of Country Reports

10. Forests provide economic production, environmental and social services and functions that contribute at the local, regional and global levels. These multiple values occur under very diverse ecological, economic and social conditions, and serve a wide-range of categories of users; which is reflected in different types of forest and tree resources management systems that exist,

² CGRFA-12/09/14

from natural forest management, industrial plantations to agroforestry systems, involving a very high number of forest species worldwide. The scope of the SoW-FGR will address forest genetic resources of economic, environmental, social and cultural values. The Country Report should cover genetic resources of forest species used for these different purposes and according to their corresponding management systems, recognising national specificities and the diversity of needs of user groups. The data and information and analysis provided in Country Reports will bring insight on current management practices regarding forest genetic resources, *in situ* and *ex situ* genetic conservation activities, improvement and breeding methodologies, infrastructures, implementation and international cooperation and collaboration, and current knowledge of the resources and management capacity needs. In this context, adopting a broad understanding of forest genetic resources and taking into account time and budget limitations, countries are encouraged to define their own priorities for actions for the short-, medium- and long-term, and at the local, regional and global levels.

11. It is strongly recommended that countries consider the current state of knowledge of forest genetic diversity as the basis for determining the scope, content and focus of their Country Report. The main aspects to be considered are:

- Between and within species diversity
- List of priority species; their roles and values and importance
- List of threatened/endangered species
- Threats, opportunities and challenges for the conservation, use and development of forest genetic resources

12. It is also recommended that countries, in assessing the state of their forest genetic resources and their roles and values, attempt to describe the related aspects of forest biodiversity, the production systems and the environments in which these resources are being used, the range of products and services which they provide, the consumption patterns and socio-cultural practices associated with them, the ecosystem functions which they sustain and their roles in achieving forest sustainable management, food security and poverty alleviation.

13. It is strongly recommended that in assessing progress and recommending future actions, that the scope of activities includes actions being taken by the public, private and non-governmental sectors; and that in particular, actions, needs, priorities and the involvement of indigenous and local communities and associations of forest growers are fully taken into account.

The Structure of Country Reports

14. FAO recognizes that there are major differences among countries in many matters relevant to forest genetic resources, and that these differences must be reflected in the Country Reports. However, a common framework for preparing Country Reports is essential to enable regional and global synthesis. It is therefore strongly recommended that countries follow as closely as possible the structure for the Country reports provided in these guidelines. Not all aspects of the reports call for complete uniformity; however by following a common framework, basic information using a common set of questions will enable synthesis within Country Reports.

15. An Executive Summary is recommended, as is an Introduction to the Country section, which would provide a description of the country and its forest sector. *The Executive Summary should be prepared after completing the main parts of the Country Report.*

16. The recommended structure of the Main Body of the Country Report is as follows:

- Chapter 1: The Current State of the Forest Genetic Resources Diversity
- Chapter 2: The State of *in situ* Genetic Conservation
- Chapter 3: The State of *ex situ* Genetic Conservation
- Chapter 4: The State of Use and Sustainable Management of Forest Genetic Resources.
- Chapter 5: The State of National Programmes, Research, Education, Training and Legislation
- Chapter 6: The State of Regional and International Collaboration
- Chapter 7: Access to Forest Genetic Resources and Sharing of Benefits arising out of their Use
- Chapter 8: The Contribution of Forest Genetic Resources to Food Security, poverty Alleviation and Sustainable Development

17. Each country should add any other chapter they believe essential to identify requirements for improved efforts to conserve, use and develop forest genetic resources for sustainable forest management, as well as to identify needs and priorities, including regional and global collaboration.

The Suggested Content of Country Reports

18. It is essential that preparation of Country Report is done so in a comprehensive way to integrate past and current trends and future trends are examined. Therefore, it is suggested that looking back about 10 years and forward 10 years would provide a perspective on where the country was, where it is now and where it is going.

19. Where practical, countries are encouraged to use any previous Country Report on Forest Genetic Resources presented to FAO as a reference point to assess trends and progress, and to provide a basis for improved policy development, planning and implementation of priority actions at all levels. Previous Country Reports are available on the FAO web site at <http://www.fao.org/forestry/50371/en/>. The use of any other available information related to forest genetic resources is highly recommended. The main information sources currently identified are: (i) the FAO global system on forest generic resources (REFORGEN), (ii) the FAO Forest Resources Assessment (FRA), (iii) national forest programmes, (iv) the information collected regularly within the framework of the FAO Regional Committees and Regional Forestry Commissions (v) the information from other sources, including the Convention on Biodiversity (CBD) country reports and (vi) the information from national reports on animal and crop genetic resources. Most of the information produced by FAO is available on the Website on forest genetic resources at: <http://www.fao.org/forestry/40146/en/>.

20. The information system, REFORGEN (<http://www.fao.org/Forestry/29423/en/>) will be further developed in order to provide individual countries with information management and communication tools, which should facilitate the preparation of Country Reports. In addition of being the source of basic forest genetic characterization as obtained from FAO previous national assessments, REFORGEN will provide countries with the following facilities: a set of relevant country information pre-collated from other FAO databases; a decision support system to aid countries in planning and guiding the whole preparatory process; and data basing functionality to enable country stakeholder networks to collate supporting data and information.

21. While each country must decide on the specific content and main issues to be addressed in its Country Report, in general, it is recommended that each section and chapter:

- Provide an analysis of trends and indicate changes over the past 10 years, where feasible.
- Provide qualitative and quantitative information.
- Identify new and emerging issues and opportunities.
- Identify the main challenges and opportunities to achieving the conservation and sustainable use of forest genetic resources.
- Provide clearly stated strategic directions of needs and priorities to achieve the conservation and sustainable use of forest genetic resources at the national, regional and global levels - This should include both immediate actions and long-term planning needs.
- Where available, provide information to assist in the development and/or consolidation of thematic studies that are being undertaken as part of preparing the Report.

22. To assist countries to develop the content of their Country Report, Annex 1 of these guidelines provides suggestions and a comprehensive set of questions for each section and chapter of the Country Report. It must be stressed that it is not necessary to attempt to answer every question. Rather, the questions are provided to stimulate discussion and assist countries to undertake a strategic analysis of their activities related to forest genetic resources, with a view to developing a path forward to meet each nation's goals, according to current efforts in the conservation and sustainable use of its forest genetic resources. As mentioned previously in the point 15 of the Structure, besides the expanded questionnaire, a basic set of questions will be also provided in these guidelines so as to cover a minimum requirement of information for each Country Report.

23. It is recommended that the Country Report be as brief as possible while addressing all of the issues. The Country Report should not exceed 50 pages. The main body of the report should be approximately 25-35 pages and should be strategic, with information provided to support the conclusions and strategic directions. No guidelines are proposed for the length of individual sections and chapters, as the emphasis may vary from country to country. Tables and annexes should be prepared for data and descriptive information, where feasible.

IV. TIMELINE AND PROCESS

Timeline

24. The overall process for preparing the first report of the SoW-FGR establishes March, 2012 as the deadline for the Country Reports submission, in order that the first draft of the first report can be considered by the Commission, at its Fourteenth Regular Session (2013).

25. In order to initiate the process, FAO will invite countries to nominate a National Focal Point for Forest Genetic Resources, preferably by January 2010. A letter will be sent to identify National Focal Points on the preparatory process for Country Reports on Forest Genetic Resources. FAO will assist the countries to prepare their Country Reports on request and as feasible, in collaboration with partners and regional networks, including through Global and Regional workshops for National Focal Points. Final Country Reports must be submitted to FAO by national governments, by March 2012, in order for them to be used in preparing the SoW-FGR. If countries are unable to submit final Country Reports by this deadline, preliminary reports of findings should be provided to FAO to contribute to the identification of global priorities for inclusion in the first report.

Recommended Institutional Steps

26. The following steps are recommended in undertaking preparation of the Country Report, using a participative approach:

- Each participating country should appoint one office for preparation of the Country Report as the focal point for contact between the country and FAO. Countries should, as soon as possible, provide to FAO the name and address of the National Focal Point for the Country Report process.
- Each country could establish a national committee to oversee preparation of the Country Report. It is highly recommended that the national committee consists of as many representative stakeholders as practical, and meet frequently to review progress and consults with key stakeholders.
- The national committee may find it useful to establish small working groups to compile data and information for the Country Report, and to write assigned sections of the Country Report. Each member of the working group should review these guidelines.
- The national committee might request the working group to rapidly determine the scope, structure and content of the Country Report, indicating the approximate length of each section. The working groups should prepare a draft outline. Once the national committee approves the outline, the working groups could designate people to assemble information and prepare a first draft of each section. This work should start early in the process leaving sufficient time for reflection and analysis.
- The national committee may wish to establish ad hoc working groups as required, to address specific issues as they arise and to provide expert advice on various matters.
- The working groups should assemble a first draft of the entire Country Report. The national committee should review it, and then provide for broader stakeholder review.
- The national committee should finalize the Country Report following the stakeholder review, and submit it to national government so that it can be

officially endorsed and submitted to FAO by March 2012. The Country Report will be an official government report. In order to be use as an input to the SoW-FGR, the Country Report must have been endorsed by each country's national government and officially transmitted to FAO in one of the organizations official languages.

27. Subject to the availability of financial resources, FAO will provide technical support to assist the Country Reports preparation, but only if invited by the government of the country itself as a priority activity. Some financial resources may be available to assist the Country Report preparatory process and some on-site expert assistance may also be available. Regional meetings are planned in 2010 for the national Focal Points to gather regional perspectives on gaps and needs as an important input to the Country Reports, and to the SoW-FGR. FAO will also encourage the involvement of all international stakeholders in country support.

28. The involvement of individual countries in the overall SoW-FGR process, and their use of the REFORGEN information system will be strongly encouraged. This will also increase both the effectiveness and efficiency of the analysis, synthesis and Report publication processes, together with the future updating of the first report at the regional and global levels.

29. The final Country Report must be translated into one of the official languages of FAO (Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish) and be submitted as an official government document.

30. The FAO contact for preparation of Country Reports is:

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ANNEX 1: PREPARATION OF THE COUNTRY REPORT: METHODOLOGY AND GUIDANCE

A. INTRODUCTION

This annex explains the general methodology that should be applied and gives specific guidance for the completion of the sections and chapters proposed for the Country Report structure. It includes two parts: B and C.

Part B presents the overall methodology and guidance for preparing the Country Report.

Part C provides detailed methodology and guidance on a section-by-section basis, which include an expanded questionnaire to stimulate and facilitate the analysis and to support the completion of the structure. A basic questionnaire is also added so as to cover basic information requirements.

B. OVERALL METHODOLOGY AND GUIDANCE FOR PREPARING THE COUNTRY REPORT

The Country Report is intended to be a strategic tool to guide the conservation and sustainable use of forest genetic resources. Each country should keep in mind that the Country Report should as far as possible:

- Provide an analysis of trends and changes over the past 10 years, to enable consolidating the information for the corresponding chapters of the SoW-FGR.
- Describe the main driving forces affecting forest genetic resources and their management in the country and describing the nature of the impacts, positive and negative.
- Identify new and emerging issues and the main challenges to achieving goals in relation to the conservation, use and management of forest genetic resources, as well as opportunities, taking into account the context of the provisions of the *CBD*, the *International Treaty*, and as appropriate, the *Global Strategy for Plant Conservation*. Where possible, solutions to issues should be provided.
- Provide strategic directions and conclusions aimed at both the national level and at the regional/global levels that clearly articulate needs to ensure the conservation, sustainable use and management of forest genetic resources, and that enable priority setting at the national, regional and global levels.

Suggestions for the content and questions are provided to assist countries to undertake their strategic analysis and develop each section in their Country Report. It is not necessary to attempt to answer every question. They are provided to stimulate discussion and analysis and to ensure that the Country Report contains strategic directions that address priorities and needs. Each country must decide how best to address each section of their Country Report, bearing in mind the need for FAO to synthesize all input to prepare the SoW-FGR.

Where practical, countries are encouraged to use any previous Country Report presented to FAO as well as any other available information related to forest genetic resources. Previous Country Reports are available on the FAO website at <http://www.fao.org/forestry/50371/en/> and most of the information produced by FAO is available on its Website on forest genetic resources at: <http://www.fao.org/forestry/40146/en/>.

Countries that recently prepared a Country Report on Animal or Plant Genetic Resources should be able to use much of the background information contained in these reports.

C. DETAILED METHODOLOGY AND GUIDANCE BY SECTION: BASIC AND EXPANDED QUESTIONNAIRES

Section I: Executive Summary

It is recommended that the Country Report contain an executive summary of 2-3 pages, which highlights the main findings of the analysis and provides an overview of key issues, challenges and existing capacity to address the issues and challenges. The summary should indicate trends and driving forces and present an overview of the proposed strategic directions for future actions aimed at the national, regional and global levels.

Section II: Introduction to the Country and Forest Sector

The main objective of this section is to present an overview to allow a person who is unfamiliar with the country to understand the conditions and help the reader appreciate the context for the Country Report. In preparing the introduction, countries should bear in mind that this section should only present an overview. Detailed information should be provided in the main body of the Country Report, and thus, countries may wish to consider developing their introductions after completing the main body of the Country Report.

Countries that previously presented a Country Report on forest genetic resources, or recently prepared a Country Report on Animal or Plant Genetic Resources, should be able to use much of the background information contained in these reports, to prepare their introductory section. As much of the information related to this section is also already contained in the FAO Global Forest Resources Assessments (FRA, 2005, 2009), countries should be able to easily prepare a synthesis, highlighting the aspects specifically related to forest genetic resources. The FRA homepage is: <http://www.fao.org/fra/en/>

It is recommended that the introduction provides:

1. Basic information on the size and location of the country: its main physiographic and climatic features, the human population and trends, the main data on forest and forest sector and the degree of reliance on the forest products for local use and for export.

2. A brief profile of the forest sector, including the main forest types and forest management systems, the size and nature of forest enterprises (small-scale forestry, subsistence, plantations etc.), land tenure, forest reproductive material supply, and the role of national and foreign private companies.
3. A description of recent trends in the forest sector and the main reasons for observed changes (driving forces), including any related national strategy or plan (deforestation, climate change, use of land etc.).
4. A map of the country, marking the places and regions mentioned in the report if necessary.
5. Countries may also wish to provide a description of the process they followed in preparing the Country Report, providing the names of the participants in an annex.

The following questions are provided to assist countries to consider the content of their introductory section. In considering them, please try to ensure data and information is provide for the questions indicated in **bold**. This will enable basic understanding of the conditions in your country and enable global synthesis of the data and information collected.

Describe the Forest Sector:

1. **What are the main types of forests and tree resource management systems?**
2. **What is the distribution of forests and the forest plantations size?**
3. How important is employment in the forest sector and what is the overall economic importance of the forest sector?
4. What is the relative importance of forests, forest products and services for domestic use and export?
5. **How is the forest sector organized? (Forest growers, private companies, international corporations, cooperatives).**
6. **What roles do the forest genetic resources play in meeting the current demands for forest products and services in your country?**

Describe changing demands and driving forces in the Forest Sector:

1. **What trends in forest conservation, management and production were observed over the past 10 years? What are their main driving forces?**
2. What changes are occurring in the demand for forest products and services in the country? Have there been significant changes in the types and diversity of products and services in the last 10 years? If so, what are the reasons for these changes - the main driving forces (government policies, changes in demands, land uses, environmental pressures, population growth, etc.)?
3. What changes in forest and tree resource management systems will be required to meet changing demands over the next 10 years?
4. What are the limiting factors and major constraints affecting productivity and efficiency? What are possible means to overcome these constraints (a brief overview of needs only?)

5. What roles will forest genetic resources play in meeting future demands for forest products and services in your country over the next 10 years?

Section III: Main Body of the Country Report

The following sections provide suggestions for the chapter headings and the content of each chapter, for the main body of the Country Report. In each chapter, the most relevant questions are indicated.

Chapter 1: The Current State of Forest Genetic Resources Diversity

The main objective of this chapter is to describe the current state of the forest genetic resources diversity in the country, and indicate future needs and priorities. Countries should attempt to identify the level of the intervention that is required – national, regional and/or global. Information in the following areas should be considered in developing the Country Report:

- The state of diversity between and within species
- The main value of forest genetic resources with an emphasis on advances in species priority setting and valuation
- The main factors influencing the state of forest genetic diversity with an emphasis on threatened and endangered species and resources
- The state of current and emerging technologies
- Needs and priorities for improving understanding of the state of forest genetic diversity

The following questions are provided to assist countries to consider the content of this chapter. In considering them, please try to ensure data and information is provide for the questions indicated in bold. This will enable basic understanding of the conditions in your country and enable global synthesis of the data and information collected.

Diversity within and between forest tree species:

- 1.1. List the main ecosystems and the main tree species in your country.**
- 1.2. List the methods of these species characterization (ecological zonation, delimitation of provenance zones etc.).**
- 1.3. List antecedents of intraspecific variation studies.**
- 1.4. What methods are being employed to analyze and assess intraspecific variation in the country?**
- 1.5. What actions are being taken to survey and inventory intraspecific variation in the country?**

- 1.6. Have any initiative and information systems been established on intraspecific genetic variation patterns?**
- 1.7. If any, indicate the objectives and priorities for improving the understanding of intraspecific variation.**
- 1.8. What are your capacity-building needs to enhance assessments and monitoring of interspecific and intraspecific variations?**

The main value of forest genetic resources:

- 1.9. What are the main forest tree species actively managed for productive aims in your country?**
- 1.10. Specify the type of production and its relative importance.
- 1.11. Specify if the species is native or introduced.
- 1.12. What are the main forest trees species actively managed or identified for environmental services in your country?**
- 1.13. What are the main forest tree species considered as threatened in your country?**
- 1.14. What is the relative importance (economic, social, and environmental) of the different tree species and their products? Are there differences in the importance of these products between different regions within the country?
- 1.15. List any documented forest tree species priority setting exercises available in your country.**
- 1.16. What is the state of genetic diversity for each main species: increasing, decreasing, remaining the same or unknown?**

Factors influencing the state of forest genetic diversity in your country:

- 1.17. Has the relative importance of the main forest tree species being utilized changed significantly over the past ten years? If so, what forces are driving the changes?
- 1.18. Is your country assessing genetic erosion of forest genetic resources? If so, what mechanisms or indicators are used to monitor genetic erosion?**
 - List the main ecosystems and the main forest tree species which are considered threatened.
 - In the case of these species, indicate whether they are threatened at the species and/or provenance level.
 - **Specify the main threats (deforestation, change of land use, over exploitation, genetic pollution).**
 - Have any information systems on threatened species and trends in threats been established in the country?
 - **List scientific and technique approaches/mechanisms used for monitoring genetic erosion and vulnerability.**

- **List scientific and technique approaches/mechanisms used for preventing, correcting genetic erosion and vulnerability.**
- **List the policy tools and instruments that the country employs to address genetic erosion and vulnerability (if any).**
- **Has the country undertaken any risk disaster analysis for forest genetic resources?**
- Has the country established any forest genetic resources recuperation/replacement following disasters?
- What are the major constraints to establishing effective forest genetic resources disaster responses mechanisms?
- **What are the country needs and priorities to improve forest genetic resources disaster response mechanisms?**
- What is required to improve regional and international disaster response mechanisms?
- **What are the country priorities to improve monitoring of genetic erosion and vulnerability and improve the response to observed erosion and vulnerability?**

Future Needs and priorities

1.19. What are your priorities for improving understanding of the state of diversity of forest genetic resources, including associated biodiversity?

1.20. What are your capacity-building needs to enhance assessments of the state of diversity of forest genetic resources, including ways to better assess genetic erosion and understanding of its causes?

1.21. What are your priorities to better understand the roles and values of the diversity of forest genetic resources (economic, social, culture, ecological values?)

1.22. Provide any other strategic direction relevant to improving understanding of the state of forest genetic diversity and maintaining this diversity (policy, research and management actions) at the national, regional and global levels.

1.23. What is the level of perception of the importance of forest genetic resources?

1.24. What are the needs and priorities for improving understanding of the state of forest resource genetic diversity and conservation and management?

1.25. What are the country priorities to better understand the roles and values of forest genetic resources (economic, social, culture and ecological values)?

1.26. What is the level of the intervention required (national, regional, and/or global?)

1.27. Are there any antecedents of surveying and inventorying forest genetic resources? If not, identify constraints to undertaking survey and inventory work.

Chapter 2: The State of *in situ* Genetic Conservation

The main objective of this section is to describe the current state of *in situ* conservation of forest genetic resources and the needs and priorities for improving it. Countries should attempt to identify the level of the intervention that is required – national, regional and/or global. Information in the following areas should be considered in the Country Report:

- Forest genetic resources inventories and surveys
- Conservation of forest genetic resources within and outside protected areas
- Sustainable forest management or Ecosystem management for forest genetic resources conservation within and outside protected areas
- Activities on *in situ* genetic conservation
- Criteria for *in situ* genetic conservation units identification
- Use and transfer of germplasm
- Assessment of major needs for *in situ* conservation

The following questions are provided to assist countries to consider the content of this chapter. In considering them, please try to ensure data and information is provide for the questions indicated in bold. This will enable basic understanding of the conditions in your country and enable global synthesis of the data and information collected.

- 2.1. List target species included in actively managed within *in situ* conservation programmes**
- 2.2. List the categories of *in situ* conservation areas established (managed production forests, provenance zones, strictly protected areas).**
- 2.3. What actions have been taken for sustaining *in situ* collections? What actions have been taken to improve inventories and surveys of forest genetic resources?
- 2.4. What actions are being taken for promoting *in situ* conservation?
- 2.5. What are the greatest constraints to improving *in situ* conservation in the country?**
- 2.6. What are the priorities for future *in situ* conservation actions?**

- 2.7. **What are the capacity-building needs and priorities for *in situ* conservation actions?**
- 2.8. **Has your country established any national/regional forum for stakeholders involved with *in situ* conservation, and that are recognized by the National Forest Programme?**
- 2.9. **What are your research priorities to support *in situ* conservation management?**
- 2.10. What are your priorities for policy development to support *in situ* conservation actions?

Chapter 3: The State of *ex situ* Genetic Conservation

The main objective of this section is to describe the current state of *ex situ* conservation of forest genetic resources and the needs and priorities for improving it. Countries should identify the appropriate level for intervention – national, regional and/or global activities.

Information in the following areas should be considered in developing the Country Report:

- The state of collections (if any)
- Collecting initiatives
- Types of collections (priority species and others, arboreta, botanical gardens)
- Storage facilities
- Documentation and characterization
- The state of current and emerging technologies
- Germplasm movement
- Access and benefit-sharing policy and legislative developments
- An assessment of major *ex situ* needs

The following questions are provided to assist countries to consider the content of this chapter. In considering them, please try to ensure data and information is provide for the questions indicated in bold. This will enable basic understanding of the conditions in your country and enable global synthesis of the data and information collected.

- 3.1. **List target forest tree species included in *ex situ* conservation programmes.**
- 3.2. **List for each species the means of conservation (provenances stored as seeds, pollen, and tissue).**
- 3.3. **Quantify the total number of each provenance stored.**
- 3.4. **Specify if the seed lots/accessions are bulked or kept separately by single tree.**
- 3.5. **Specify the infrastructure capacity for *ex situ* conservation (laboratory, germplasm banks etc.).**
- 3.6. **List number and size of *ex situ* conservation stands established in the country (species, provenance, size).**
- 3.7. **List number, size and roles of arboreta and botanical gardens established in the country.**
- 3.8. **Describe use and transfer of germplasm in the country.**
- 3.9. **Describe the documentation and characterization used.**
- 3.10. What are the actions for sustaining existing *ex situ* collections?

- 3.11. What are the actions for promoting *ex situ* conservation?
- 3.12. What are the greatest constraints to improving *ex situ* conservation in the country?
- 3.13. What are the priorities for future *ex situ* conservation actions?
- 3.14. What are the capacity-building needs and priorities for *ex situ* conservation actions?

Chapter 4: The State of Use and Sustainable Management of Forest Genetic Resources

The main objective of this section is to describe the use and sustainable management of forest genetic resources. The Country Report should indicate the needs and priorities for improving them. Countries should identify the level of appropriate intervention – national, regional and/or global. Information on the following areas should be considered:

- The importance of sustainable management and use.
- Utilization of conserved forest genetic resources and major constraints to their use.
- The state of forest genetic improvement and breeding programmes.
- The state of use and management of forest reproductive materials; forest reproductive material availability, demand and supply.
- The state of current and emerging technologies.
- Assessment of needs to improve the forest genetic resources management and use.

The following questions are provided to assist countries to consider the content of this chapter. In considering them, please try to ensure data and information is provided for the questions indicated in bold. This will enable basic understanding of the conditions in your country and enable global synthesis of the data and information collected.

Genetic improvement programmes and their implementation:

- 4.1. **List the species which are presently subject to tree improvement programmes.**
- 4.2. Specify if native or introduced species are being used.
- 4.3. **Specify the main improvement objective (timber, pulpwood, fuel wood, non-wood products, other).**
- 4.4. Specify the level of the improvement programmes (first, second generation).
- 4.5. **List for each species listed in the first question above, as applicable, the number of provenances tested in field trials, phenotypically selected individuals (plus trees), seedling progenies tested in field trials, clones tested in field trials.**
- 4.6. **List type, number and size of seedling seed orchards.**
- 4.7. **List type, number and size of clonal seed orchards.**
- 4.8. **List number and size of clonal banks established in the country.**
- 4.9. If on-going breeding programmes include controlled crosses, specify species/provenance and approximate number of successful, distinct crosses included in trials.
- 4.10. **List the number and storage capacity of gene banks established in the country.**
- 4.11. Indicate the grade of use of improved forest reproductive materials in the country.
- 4.12. Indicate the actions taken to promote the use of improved reproductive material in the country.
- 4.13. Are there any participatory tree breeding programmes in the country?

- 4.14. If yes, what are the participatory approaches being implemented?
4.15. Have any information systems been established on tree breeding programmes?
4.16. What is the state of the use and transfer of germplasm?
4.17. What is the state of access and benefit-sharing?

Delivery/deployment systems; Availability of reproductive materials

- 4.18. Specify species of which quantities of seed, pollen, scions and/or other reproductive materials that can be made available, at request.**
 4.19. Specify species of which improved reproductive materials can be made available at a commercial scale (seed and clonal reproductive material production and distribution).
4.20. Specify the type of improved reproductive material classification in use in the country.
 4.21. Was any variety release registered in the country?
4.22. Specify the mean of release of the improved forest genetic materials
4.23. Has your country implemented any national improved seed programme?

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| <p>Chapter 5: The State of National Programmes, Research, Education, Training and Legislation</p> |
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The main objective of this section is to describe the state of national capacities in research, education, training and legislation as well as coordination information mechanisms for forest genetic resources. The Country Report should indicate their needs and priorities and identify the appropriate level of intervention- national, regional and/or global. The following areas should be considered:

- National programmes for forest genetic resources
- National legislation
- Research
- Education and Training
- Dissemination
- Coordination's mechanisms
- Assessment of major needs in capacity building

The following questions are provided to assist countries to consider the content of this chapter. In considering them, please try to ensure data and information is provide for the questions indicated in bold. This will enable basic understanding of the conditions in your country and enable global synthesis of the data and information collected.

National Programmes

- 5.1. List the main institutions actively engaged in field and laboratory work related to forest genetic resources conservation.**
5.2. Classify if the involved institutions are: (governmental/non-governmental institutions, research institutes, universities, industry etc.).
 5.3. List the main institution actively engaged in field work related to tree improvement.
 5.4. Classify if the involved institutions are: (governmental/non-governmental institutions, research institutes, universities, industry etc.).

- 5.5. List the number of institutions indirectly and directly related to forest genetic resources conservation and management in the country.
- 5.6. **Has your country established a National Programme for forest genetic resources?**
- 5.7. **If yes, describe its structure and main functions in your Country Report.**
- 5.8. How are national stakeholders (public and private sector, educational and research institutions, civil society organizations, local communities, etc.) involved in planning and implementing national forest genetic resources programmes?
- 5.9. **Has your country established a legal framework for forest genetic resources strategies, plans and programmes? If yes, describe the framework.**
- 5.10. Does your national forest genetic programme work in cooperation with national programmes in related areas (e.g. agriculture, biodiversity, development, environment programmes)?
- 5.11. **Have the trends in support for your National Programme for forest genetic resources changed over the past 10 years – become stronger, declined, remained about the same? Is programme funding increasing, decreasing or stable?**
- 5.12. Have you determined any gaps in the current level of financial support necessary to achieve your country's forest genetic resources goals? If so, indicate the needs and priorities in your Country Report.
- 5.13. **Indicate the main challenges, needs and priorities that your country faces to maintain or strengthen its National Programme for forest genetic resources over the next 10 years?**

Networks:

- 5.14. **Has your country developed/enhanced national networks for forest genetic resources over the past 10 years?**
- 5.15. **Indicate the participants in any networks and the main functions and benefits that are derived from the networks.**

Education, Research and training:

- 5.16. **List the number and categories (private, public, governmental etc.) of research institution involved in forest genetic resources in your country.**
- 5.17. List the number of research projects related to forest genetic resources.
- 5.18. **Estimate the budget allocated to forest genetic resource research at national level.**
- 5.19. **List the number of patents (if any) related to forest genetic resources.**
- 5.20. **What is the state of education and training in to forest genetic resources?**
- 5.21. **What are your needs and priorities for education and training to support the sustainable use, development and conservation of forest genetic resources?**
- 5.22. What are the main obstacles to providing the required education and training and what can be done to address the obstacles?
- 5.23. Has your country developed a strategy to address education and training needs for forest genetic resources?
- 5.24. Has your country identified opportunities for education and training outside the country? If so, what are the obstacles to participating in identified education and training opportunities?

National Legislation:

- 5.25. Has your country established legislation or regulations relevant to forest genetic resources over the past 10 years (phytosanitary, seed production, forest breeders rights, others)?**
- 5.26. List the number of treaties, agreements, and conventions endorsed by the country that are related to forest genetic resources conservation and management.**
- 5.27. Has your country identified any obstacles to developing legislation and regulations relevant to forest genetic resources? If so, what are your needs and priorities to address the obstacles?**

Information systems:

- 5.28. Has your country developed any information management systems to support efforts to sustainably use, develop, and conserve forest genetic resources?**
- 5.29. Have your documentation systems been computerized with standard formats to facilitate data exchanges?
- 5.30. If not, what are your priorities and needs?
- 5.31. What are your main challenges, needs and priorities for developing or enhancing your information management systems for forest genetic resources?**

Public awareness:

- 5.32. How would you describe the level of awareness of the roles and values of forest genetic resources in your country (unaware, limited awareness, satisfactory awareness, excellent awareness)?**
- 5.33. Has your country developed awareness programmes for forest genetic resources? If so, describe them and any products obtained.**
- 5.34. Has your country identified any constraints to developing public awareness programmes for forest genetic resources?**
- 5.35. If so, what are your needs and priorities to address the constraints?**

Chapter 6: The State of Regional and International Collaboration

The main objective of this section is to describe the current state of regional and international collaboration for forest genetic resources in your country and to indicate future needs and priorities. Countries should identify the level of appropriate intervention – regional and/or global. The following areas should be considered in developing the Country Report:

- Regional and sub-regional networks, international specific networks and sub-regional collaboration for maintaining *ex situ* and *in situ* collections.
- International programmes.
- International agreements.
- Assessment of major needs to promote/improve international collaboration.

The following questions are provided to assist countries to consider the content of this chapter. In considering them, please try to ensure data and information is provide for the questions indicated in bold. This will enable basic understanding of the conditions in your country and enable global synthesis of the data and information collected.

International networks:

- 6.1. What regional, sub-regional, forest genetic resources-bases or thematic networks for forest genetic resources does your country participate in, over the past 10 years, and what benefits result?**
- 6.2. What are your country's needs and priorities to develop or strengthen international networks for forest genetic resources?**

International Programmes:

- 6.3. What international programmes for forest genetic resources have been most beneficial for your country, and why?**
- 6.4. List the agencies and the main results of these programmes.
- 6.5. Has international financial support to forest genetic resources changed in your country over the past 10 years?
- 6.6. What are your country's needs and priorities for future international collaboration related to:**
 - **Understanding the state of diversity**
 - **Enhancing *in situ* management**
 - **Enhancing *ex situ* management**
 - **Enhancing use of forest genetic resources**
 - **Enhancing research**
 - **Enhancing education and training**
 - **Enhancing legislation**
 - **Enhancing information management and early warning systems for forest genetic resources.**
 - **Enhancing public awareness**
 - **Any other priorities for international programmes**

International agreements:

- 6.7. Has your country subscribed any international agreements, treaties, conventions, or trade agreements over the past 10 years that are relevant to the sustainable use, development and conservation of forest genetic resources?**
- 6.8. If so, briefly describe the impact of these agreements with regard to the conservation and sustainable use of forest genetic resources in your country.**

The main objective of this section is to describe the state of access to forest genetic resources, transfer and sharing benefit arising out of their use. Countries should identify the level of appropriate intervention- national, regional and/or global as related to:

- Regulations
- Agreements
- Main stakeholders.

The following questions are provided to assist countries to consider the content of this chapter. In considering them, please try to ensure data and information is provided for the questions indicated in bold. This will enable basic understanding of the conditions in your country and enable global synthesis of the data and information collected.

Access to forest genetic resources:

- 7.1. **Over the past 10 years, has your country subscribed to any international agreements relevant to access to forest genetic resources, transfer and sharing of benefit arising out of their use?**
- 7.2. **If so, list them in your Country Report.**
- 7.3. **Over the past 10 years, has your country developed or modified national legislation and policies or taken other action in terms of providing access to forest genetic resources within the country and sharing of benefits arising out of their use?**
- 7.4. Over the past 10 years, has your country undertaken any management actions to maintain or enhance access to forest genetic resources located outside your country (e.g. established germplasm exchange agreements)?
- 7.5. If so, describe the actions taken.
- 7.6. Indicate the number of accessions obtained if possible, the countries of origin and the purposes for accessing the germplasm.
- 7.7. **Is access to forest genetic resources remaining about the same, improving or being more difficult over the past 10 years?**
- 7.8. Over the past 10 years, has your country encountered any difficulties in maintaining or enhancing access to forest genetic resources located outside your country? Is access to such forest genetic resources adequate to support forest development goals? If not, what should be done to improve the situation?
- 7.9. Does your country restrict access to certain types of forest genetic resources? If so, indicate the restrictions and the reasons for them.

Sharing of benefits arising out of the use of forest genetic resources:

- 7.10. **What are the benefits arising from the use of forest genetic resources in your country (qualitative and quantitative information if available?)**
- 7.11. **Who shares in the benefits arising from the use of forest genetic resources in your country?**
- 7.12. **Has your country established mechanisms of sharing benefits arising out of the use of forest genetic resources? If so, describe them.**
- 7.13. Has your country identified obstacles to achieving or enhancing the fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising out of the use of forest genetic resources?
- 7.14. If so, describe the obstacles and ways to overcome them.
- 7.15. **Indicate in your Country Report the importance of maintaining or enhancing access to forest genetic resources and benefit-sharing and provide any other strategic directions for maintaining access and benefit sharing.**

Chapter 8: The Contribution of Forest Genetic Resource to Food Security, Poverty Alleviation and Sustainable Development

The Country Report should indicate the status, needs and priorities of the contributions of forest genetic resources to food security, poverty alleviation and sustainable development. Countries should identify the level of appropriate intervention - national, regional and/or global. Information in the following areas should be considered in developing the Country Report, the contribution of forest genetic resources to:

- Forest and agricultural sustainability.
- Food security and poverty alleviation.
- Sustainable development.

The following questions are provided to assist countries to consider the content of this chapter. In considering them, please try to ensure data and information is provide for the questions indicated in bold. This will enable basic understanding of the conditions in your country and enable global synthesis of the data and information collected.

- 8.1. What are your priorities to better understand the economic, social, environmental and other contributions of forest genetic resources for food, agriculture and forest development?**
- 8.2. What are the contributions of forest genetic resources management to the Millennium Development Goals in your country?**