

Proceedings of the International expert workshop on strengthening collaboration on criteria and indicators (C&I) to promote and demonstrate sustainable forest management

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Workshop Summary

The past year has been marked with a number of important milestones in advancing global effort toward sustainable forest management. These are in particular the ECOSOC resolution on the International Arrangement on Forests beyond 2015¹, the adoption of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development including the Sustainable Development Goals², the UNFCCC Paris Agreement³ and the vision for the future of forests of the World Forestry Congress⁴, at which the Global Forest Resources Assessment 2015 was launched.

Criteria and indicators, as a tool for promoting, implementing and demonstrating sustainable forest management (SFM), are relevant to these.

There is a unique opportunity to enhance the connectedness of SFM indicators and global initiatives related to forests and strengthen the impact of their work. The role of FAO FRA and CFRQ is considered to have an important role in driving the identification and harmonization of key indicators in concert with these initiatives.

To this end, 35 internationally renowned experts in SFM indicators and forest-related initiatives met in Ottawa, Canada on May 1-3, 2016 to strengthen collaboration around indicators to better promote and demonstrate progress toward SFM in all forests.

Based on the vision and roadmap on "Mobilizing the full potential of criteria and indicators for sustainable forest management in policy and practice: the way forward"⁵ presented and discussed at the World Forestry Congress, six priority areas for concrete action were identified:

- 1) Develop a core set of indicators to use in global forest-related reporting
- 2) Report progress on global commitments
- 3) Integrate C&I into inter-sectoral policy decision-making and planning
- 4) Share knowledge and building capacity
- 5) Analyze commonalities and differences among C&I processes
- 6) Analyze the evolution of SFM indicator processes and the lessons learned.

These actions will help increase the consistency of authoritative information about forests, help focus efforts toward the ultimate goal of SFM, streamline reporting, and strengthen collaboration among experts and their organizations to these ends.

Workshop participants recognize the value of working both independently and collectively to advance these actions. The experts committed themselves to jointly undertake follow-up work on each of these six priority areas, aiming at tangible results in promoting and demonstrating SFM through C&I. All relevant organizations are encouraged to consider how they might contribute to the actions to promote SFM at international, regional, national and local levels. For more information on how to get connected to one of the respective sub-groups and their work, please contact Simon Bridge at Natural Resources Canada (simon.bridge@canada.ca).

Acronyms

AFWC – African Forest and Wildlife Commission

AHEG – Ad-Hoc Expert Groups (of UNFF)

APFC – Asia-Pacific Forestry Commission

C&I – Criteria and Indicators

CBD – Convention on Biological Diversity

CGIAR – Consultative Group for International Agricultural Research

COFCAC – Latin American and Caribbean Forest Commission

COFO – Committee on Forestry

CPF – Collaborative Partnership on Forests

CFRQ – Collaborative Forest Resources Questionnaire

FAO – Food and Agriculture Organization

FE – Forest Europe

FLEGT – Forest Law Enforcement, Government and Trade

FPIC –Free, Prior, and Informed Consent

FRA – Global Forest Resources Assessments (of FAO)

FSC – Forest Stewardship Council

GEF – Global Environmental Facility

IAEG – Inter-agency and Expert Group

IUFRO – International Union of Forest Research Organizations

ITTO – International Tropical Timber Organization

JFSQ – Joint Forest Sector Questionnaire

MP – Montreal Process

MPWG – Montreal Process Working Group

NAFC – North American Forest Commission

NGOs – Non-Governmental Organizations

PEFC – Programme for the Endorsement of Forest certification

REDD+ – Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation

NEFRC – Near East Forestry and Range Commission

SD – Sustainable Development

SDG – Sustainable Development Goals

SFM – Sustainable Forest Management

UNECE – United Nations Economic Commission for Europe

UNFCCC – United Nations Framework Convention on Climate change

UNFF – United Nations Forum on Forest

Introduction

From May 1-3, 2016, 35 experts from 16 countries came together in Ottawa, Canada for a workshop organized by Natural Resources Canada (see *Annex 1* for participants), in cooperation with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the UN (FAO), as part of a drive to mobilize the full potential of criteria and indicators (C&I) in managing forest sustainability.

The past year has been marked with a number of important milestones in advancing global effort toward sustainable forest management (SFM). These are in particular the ECOSOC resolution on the International Arrangement on Forests beyond 2015¹, the adoption of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development including the Sustainable Development Goals², the UNFCCC Paris Agreement³ and the vision for the future of forests of the World Forestry Congress, at which the Global Forest Resources Assessment 2015⁴ was launched.

Criteria and indicators, have a major role in promoting the implementation of recent global agreements affecting forests, by focusing on measurable results and on follow-up monitoring and reporting. This workshop was the beginning of a broader conversation to enhance the connectedness of sustainable forest management (SFM) indicators and global initiatives related to forests and strengthen the impact of their work.

The workshop used, as its starting point, the “roadmap” on “Mobilizing the full potential of criteria and indicators for sustainable forest management in policy and practice: the way forward”⁵, that was developed through broad global consultation with stakeholders and experts using criterion and indicators (C&I) and presented at the World Forestry Congress 2015.

Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs): A set of UN goals, including managing forests sustainably, with targets for 2020 and 2030 (see *Annex 3*).

Paris Agreement: An agreement between 195 countries to limit global warming to well below 2°C, which enters into force in 2020.

Global Forest Resources Assessments (FRA): A UN FAO initiative to monitor forests. Assessments are produced every 5 years with the next one scheduled for 2020 – FRA2020.

¹ To download: <https://daccess-ods.un.org/TMP/2833752.03609467.html>

² <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/?menu=1300>

³ To download: <http://unfccc.int/resource/docs/2015/cop21/eng/10a01.pdf>

⁴ To download: http://www.fao.org/fileadmin/user_upload/wfc2015/Documents/Durban_Declaration_draft.pdf

⁵ To download:

http://foris.fao.org/meetings/download/_2015/global_forest_criteria_and_indicators_forum_promot/misc_documents/_2._strengthening_forest_sustainability_indicators_vr_wfc.pdf

The objectives for the workshop were to:

- 1.) Strengthen relationships between C&I processes and other forest related organizations and fora that promote implementation of SFM and that track environmental change and report on sustainable developments related to the forests
- 2.) Explore possibilities to use C&I to address SFM issues within the context of the different forest related fora and organizations
- 3.) Propose concrete actions would advance common interests and lead to continuous improvement and enhance collaboration

The proposed outputs of the workshop were:

- 1.) An *Aide Memoire* to indicate the collective desire to act both independently and jointly to move C&I processes forward.
- 2.) A roadmap of priority areas for concrete, practical action for relevant organizations with outcomes, milestones, and list of contributing participants.

A Steering Committee composed of representatives from the Montreal Process, FOREST EUROPE, International Tropical Timber Organization (ITTO), FAO and the United Nations Forum on Forests (UNFF) secretariat guided development of the workshop agenda (See **Annex 2**).

The Steering Committee will work together to provide guidance and support to enable the project teams to achieve the actions proposed during this workshop.

Participant Expectations

The workshop began with a roundtable in which the participants were asked to introduce themselves and express their expectations for the workshop.

This exercise helped to familiarize the participants with each other and gave rise to a wide-ranging list of concerns, insights, and ideas for action (**Annex 4**). Though there were many ideas for action, they can be categorized under the following general topics:

- **Create a core set of indicators** – Establish a core set of indicators that respond to the needs and complexities of the SFM and associated international reporting processes.
- **Link the C&I with a higher profile initiative** – Take advantage of an established process that can use the C&I tool (e.g. Sustainable Development Goals).
- **Understand the broad value of forests** – Ensure C&I are capable capturing the full range of biophysical and socioeconomic benefits of the forests, and their interdependency with other sectors; recognize that there are opportunities to get other sectors involved.

- **Develop a common voice** – Ensure consistency, clarity and a connection to the targeted audiences.
- **Organize to help each other** – Create a platform, with a moderating body, that will make it easier to create a community of practice and a network for decision-support.
- **Communicate content** – Be more strategic in releasing and sharing information (e.g. timing of reports, multi-organization initiatives).

Some significant challenges for advancing the use of C&I to demonstrate SFM in the long-term that emerged during this portion of the workshop include:

- The burden of reporting to multiple processes using slightly divergent but otherwise redundant measures.
- Adapting indicators to other sources of global change, including climate change and development;
- The difficulty in reconciling the high-level indicators used in reporting with on-the-ground measures used in other processes, such as forest certification;
- Insulating C&I processes and from political pressures.

Common success factors from C&I projects

The experts were placed in 5 groups to discuss past on ongoing C&I related projects with a focus on identifying success factors for one or multiple projects.

The groups discussed various projects ranging from shaping the goals and policies around national reporting, to inputs for forest certification schemes and informing land-owners. The participants were able to identify many success factors of previous projects (**Annex 5**) and noted that it is perhaps equally important to look at failures as it is to look at successes. It was noted that a comparative study of C&I related projects that have failed and those that have succeeded may allow further insights to be drawn.

The most common success factors mentioned can be summarized under the following categories:

- **Flexibility and adaptability in how to apply C&I** – Including at different scales, using only the elements of the framework that apply in a particular context, and considering regional context.
- **Having an accessible conceptual framework** – To create a common understand, inform debates and lessen tension between opposing stakeholders.
- **Focusing on the needs of the end-users** – Early identification of the needs of the target audience, including policy-makers, and linking the initiative to other processes, such as certification.
- **Collaborating with stakeholders** – Being open to collaboration with many stakeholders and understanding the time and effort needed to ensure effective communication and consultation.

Action Proposals

During the workshop, emphasis was placed on developing and refining action proposals. The collective expertise in the room allowed ideas to be tested and validated in order to gain initial buy-in from potential individual contributors, who are connected to the key organizations for furthering these activities. In all, 6 proposals were developed:

- 1. Develop a Core Set of Indicators to Use in Global Forest-related Reporting**
- 2. Report Progress on Global Commitments**
- 3. Integrate C&I into Inter-sectoral Policy Decision-making and Planning.**
- 4. Share Knowledge and Build National Capacity**
- 5. Analyze Commonalities and Differences among C&I Processes**
- 6. Analyze the Evolution of SFM Indicator Processes and the Lessons Learned**

Prior to the workshop, a questionnaire was circulated to participants to elicit ideas to advance collaboration on C&I. The responses to the survey were used to seed discussion about the possibilities (**Annex 6**). The group followed a series of steps in an effort to generate ideas in key areas for action proposals (**Annex 7**).

It is important to note that the outputs under one proposal will affect others and further refinements may be needed as the actions progress. For example, assessing the different C&I processes will inform the development of a core set of indicators. The Steering Committee will work to coordinate the action plans to encourage synergies and avoid redundancies in the follow up work.

1. Develop a Core Set of Indicators to Use in Global Forest-related Reporting

Idea:

To identify a core set of forest indicators that are fundamental to forest related reporting globally. These indicators should be drawn from existing forest indicator sets, which can be used to meet a wide range of national, regional and global sustainability reporting requirements. From this core set, indicators could be selected to contribute to specific reporting requirements, such as the Sustainable Development Goals, CBD and others. Core indicators should be comprise of a small set of indicators, possibly less than 12 in number, which can be used to describe the key elements of forests across the globe. Country and data organization participation would be required to develop this core set of indicators.

Outcome:

- Delivery and use of a core set of forest indicators to support global and national sustainable forest reporting
- Improved clarity, communication and consistency in reporting on sustainable forest management across international processes
- Reduced burden of reporting on countries and greater ability to respond to all reporting needs
- Increased uptake of common forest indicators

Milestones:

1. Establish a champion or leader.
2. Table the proposal to the UNFF, asking the UNFF to lead or enable a group of C&I experts (from global processes, other sectors, and users) to develop a core set of indicators – June 2016
3. Comparative assessment of commonalities and differences of SFM-related indicator processes – July 2016 (see action 3)
4. Assessment of the SFM and forest-related indicator needs of various global processes – July 2016
5. High-level expert workshop to develop the initial core indicator set organized by the UNFF or FAO as an organization-led initiative – Sept to Nov. 2016
6. Communicate and solicit feedback from collaborators, including C&I processes – Dec. 2016
7. Table final core set with UNFF – May 2017

Possible Champions: Most likely to be UNFF and/or FAO

Potential Collaborators: ITTO, MP, FE, IUFRO, CBD, UNFCCC, UNCCD, ATO, CGIAR, OFAC, COMIFAC, Forest certification bodies.

**Note:* UN agencies to coordinate but not make proposals for core set

Discussion/notes:

- International processes, broadly, are all asking for indicators to measure progress against their many and varied goals. However, reporting burdens on countries are making it hard for many to report against the many and varied requests.
- It was proposed that this core set of indicators should:
 - be less than twelve indicators
 - be derived so that they are of value to all of the international processes – this means international processes use them by preference don't create new indicator sets as a starting point

- acknowledge, or be linked to, the seven thematic areas identified by UNFF⁶
 - be derived from, and acknowledge, the activity of the main indicator processes that have successfully been implemented (e.g. Montreal Process, Forest Europe, ITTO, GFRA)
 - be based on existing indicators
 - be championed by either the UNFF or the FAO
 - be championed to other international processes – UNFF, UNFCCC, CBD and others.
- While there are some immediate reporting requirements that these indicators could contribute to, such as SDG 15.2 (Goal 15, target 2⁷²) and UNFF reporting, the development of the core indicators should be based on a longer-term assessment of reporting requirements
 - The intent of this work is strengthening and utilizing the existing indicator process that are in existence today, and working well, without encouraging the proliferation of new indicator sets.
 - It is important to note we are talking about indicators and not criteria.
 - Making progress on this action item will require a better understanding of the roles and responsibilities of the organizations and institutions that might be involved and engaging with them to receive endorsement, as appropriate.
 - The Committee on Forestry (COFO) meeting in July 2016 is an opportunity to engage with countries and advance this action item. It is anticipated that the FAO's Global Forest Resources Assessment 2020 (FRA2020) will be on the agenda.
 - The milestones for this action item have been developed in consideration of the timing of activities leading up to the development of FRA2020. It is anticipated that the FAO will initiate consultations on the design of the FRA2020 by 2018. The workshop proposed for this action needs to take place by May 2017 to align with the FRA2020 timeline and inform the development of FRA2020 data requirements.
 - The focus of this action is on national reporting; further discussion is required to understand how forest certification schemes can contribute to or take advantage of a core set of indicators.
 - There is a need for clarity around what level of specificity is needed for the core indicators. The assessment of C&I processes and data uses (Action 3) could help to identify the specificity needed.

⁶ <http://www.fao.org/forestry/sfm/85084/en/>

⁷ <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/sdg15>

2. Report Progress on Global Commitments

Idea:

Address data gaps, identify reporting overlaps in reporting on forests and use FRA to support reporting on global forest related commitments, such as the SDGs and Paris Agreement.

Outcomes:

- C&I process are mobilized/ready to support monitoring forest related SDGs, the Paris Agreement, UNFF/UN Forest Instrument/FRA
- FAO/FRA takes the lead in harmonizing and synchronizing C&I reporting processes for global commitments (UNCCC, UNCCD, CBD, UNFF, etc.).
- FRA data will serve multiple purposes/allow to report on forest-related aspects of global commitments more easily and effectively

Milestones:

- The important milestones are forest related global meetings, as they represent opportunities to further the process of aligning C&I reporting with global agreements. The following meeting/events are key for this initiative:
 - COFO in July 2016
 - UNFF 12 in May 2017
 - Paris Agreement coming into force
 - 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its SDGs
- A series of workshops can be held for capacity building, harmonizing and streamlining reporting from 2016-2021.

Possible champions: FRA, GFIP, FAO, or CPF

Potential collaborators: CPF, UNFF Secretariat, FRA advisory group

Discussion/notes:

- The FRA National Correspondents Network may be a useful resource for this action.
- The different reporting cycles among governing bodies recognized as a challenge for harmonizing C&I reporting.
- Need to see if there is appetite to move this idea forward and if so there is a need to identify a “champion” to move the idea forward. Whoever champions this needs to be able to get the right people around the table.
- For many countries, providing information to all of these reporting processes can be a burden. It is important to understand the gaps that act as barriers being able to report on certain indicators.
- There have been past successes and failures in efforts to co-ordinate C&I reporting at different scales in an effort to reduce administrative burden. A significant challenge has been the need

for approval of different governing bodies to make adjustments in the timing and methods of their reporting. There are consistent broad themes for C&I, but the reporting of each organization is specific.

- There is enough need and material of substance that a group of experts can come together to discuss overlap/gap issues between reporting processes. Perhaps this will allow for success where other initiatives trying to achieve similar outcomes have failed.
- It is important to recognize the bottom-up approach. If countries are already collecting data for C&I then the next step is to begin by helping them to adapt this to reporting processes. There is a need for building trust because the different reporting processes are coordinated by different groups.

3. Integrate C&I into Inter-sectoral Policy Decision-making and Planning.

Ideas: Elaborate a short/practical paperⁱ outlining a framework of using C&I in policy decision-making, planning and program delivery describing:

1. A set of principles (criteria) promoting more integrated/consistent sustainability across sectors (agriculture, forestry and fisheries, in SDG/2030 Agenda context⁸)
2. The role and use of (criteria and) indicators in setting measurable objectives and targets and in balancing different sustainability dimensions at the planning stage of multi or annual plans and investment decisions (development / adaptation of existing indicators → building awareness, ownership, capacity, accountability)
3. Using (criteria and) indicators for monitoring and assessing implementation of programs and plans with respect to goals and targets.

Work with various representatives of the collaborators and have them take the framework forward as a pilot for MP/FE/ITTO/FAO at next general meeting (within 1 year) and have them report back to the indicator experts.

Milestones: For idea 1 – TBD, For Idea 2 – June 2017. For Idea 3 – TBD

Outcome:

The ‘concept’ of C&I is used as a non-prescriptive tool/framework for incorporating the principles of sustainable development into different levels of decision-making, including: planning, natural resource development, investments, and policy design, follow-up monitoring, assessment and reporting.

Target audience: Decision-makers on the national level

Champion: MP, FE, ITTO, and FAO can act as advocates and then trigger pilots within their organization that integrate C&I into major processes, to demonstrate potential benefits. Lessons from the pilots would provide guidance for how to integrate C&I into decision-making.

⁸ <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/post2015/transformingourworld>

Collaborators: Forestry organizations, such as Forest Europe and ITTO, as well as other groups promoting sustainable development.

Discussion/notes:

- Promote and incentivize C&I for better support of SFM on the ground.
 - Leverage the experience of the group at the workshop in using C&I in SFM, to integrate/mainstream into the decision-making around the world.
 - Using C&I as a stepping stone to certification
 - Can we do something to support the New York Declaration on Forests⁹?
 - One of the values of C&I is that it builds awareness, ownership, capacity and greater accountability through the process of building the framework.
 - There needs to be a consistent line from global level to local level in this multi-layered process. This could lead to better transparency and better evidence decision-making. Improved linkages between sustainability and forest practices. Support certification processes on the ground with incentives for C&I— for example better access to use rights, better access to funding and better access to markets.
 - There is a variety of ways to use C&I in policy development. We do not need to stick to indicators. Results of C&I can be converted to policy guidelines, and recommendations can be developed.
 - In some countries there are democratic processes for decision-making that make it difficult to push for integration of C&I in decision-making. An important element would be to inform the democratic decision-making (transparency, comprehensibility, operational guidance)
 - In some ways, the C&I help to democratize the intellectual processes related to SFM. It is a usable framework for laypeople and it evened the playing field for decision-makers. In this respect, the use and generation of various kinds of data has to be examined.
 - The SDGs seem to come across as the reference frame for multiple sectors. Using a different frame (criteria) might cause issues. It was discussed that the level of indicators is the most relevant one because here rests the adaptation potential.
 - Some people don't know what C&I are. It was suggested by that the SDGs may have better visibility. The criteria show the values that we want to preserve/conservate and enhance. If we don't have the criteria where do we talk about the value? The indicators have to be tracking something (some value). Criteria then are about the central direction and indicators are the operational tools. These "roles" need to be understood in interpretation to stay flexible.
 - Have been talking to other sectors, but the criteria are core to SFM. How can the criteria be modified to talk to other sectors? Is this a policy problem? Or is it for C&I experts? The challenges are not to add to the framework but to have a framework that is accessible to other sectors. The criteria have to be linked and embedded to a larger concept if needed.
- Compliances, synergies and trade-offs must be considered when linking C&I for Sustainable

⁹ To download: <http://www.un.org/climatechange/summit/wp-content/uploads/sites/2/2014/07/New-York-Declaration-on-Forest-%E2%80%93Action-Statement-and-Action-Plan.pdf>

Forest Management (SFM) with other sectors. It is suggested that Sustainable Development can therefore serve as a meta- framework

- Implementing C&I may have implications beyond reporting (e.g. communication, policy formulation, sectoral and inter-sectoral dialogue, decision-support tool, performance assessment). It is important to recognize that C&I from a business community can, in some cases, be seen as a threat.

4. Share Knowledge and Build National Capacity

Idea:

- a) Build Capacity of C&I experts at the country regional and international levels
- b) Establish knowledge exchange platforms to enable experts within countries ,across the regions , globally to share information and learn from experiences of other C&I experts towards improvement of SFM

a) Capacity building

1. Identify gaps in C&I knowledge by experts and professionals (link to action proposal 3)
2. Review materials available
3. Develop training materials (e.g., info sheets, policy briefs)
4. Undertake awareness related activities (e.g., Training of Trainers (TOTs), workshops, meetings, seminars, field demonstrations, community durbars etc.

b) Knowledge sharing

1. Find existing knowledge exchange platforms, networks and fora for national, regional, and international use. If none are available and suitable, explore possibilities for developing C&I expert community platform
2. (Based on outcome of 1) Establish/improve and link the network to accurate data and information through web platform
3. Encourage cross-country and within country exchanges

Outcome:

- Improvements in forest management towards SFM and other land use restoration approaches
- Increasing knowledge and capacity across the (forest) community (local, regional, national, international)
- Better, more accurate data and inputs for Decision makers on C&I; better networking; and improved understanding of C&I across countries.
- More opportunities to reach out to other forest land users

Target Audience:

- Local : C&I and certification experts and professionals
- National level : Forestry and other related sectors to be targeted, government/policy makers , civil society groups and resource owners' and users in various countries and regions

Milestones:

- July 2016 – Establish Steering Group
- September 2016 – Develop GEF -7 SFM Strategy for grant proposal development
- Early 2017 – undertake need assessment /gap analysis on what people need to know about the C&I
- Review secondary materials/ documents already done on this
- Develop and submit full proposal on what people require and actions to be taken
- Mid 2017 – Launch Report
- 2017/2018/mid 2019 - Implement proposed plan
- September 2019 – Project finished (but continues self-sustaining)

Champion: Will vary by country/region

Collaborators: C&I, communication, natural resource and media experts, and civil society.

* The GEF-7 SFM Strategy is a funding option

Discussion/notes:

- This could support and contribute to certification processes.
- There would be a need to involve decision-makers at the beginning.
- The potential contributors to this proposal will talk to champion (UNFF) to seek buy-in.
- The report could include a matrix of scale, detailing the understanding and capacity building needed (local, regional, national, international)
- Seeking buy-in from processes (national reporting, certification, etc.) for the capacity building project. Approved funding would be a success factor.
- Supporting material for capacity building and infrastructure enhancements by 2019 (end) and becomes self-sustaining thereafter
- There will be enhanced networks and ideally enhanced decision-making. Another big outcome could be the recognition of the role of major bodies such as UNFF, FAO, etc.
- ITTO may be able to contribute through experts in evaluation. They have implemented many projects that have been reviewed.
- In Africa, ITTO has really helped with capacity building. They have helped to adapt indicators to the Ghana situation.
- In Mexico, ITTO has helped with capacity building, through a forest management evaluation processes tailored to Mexico's tropical forest conditions; adaptation, develop, and implement of local C&I.
- A second phase could be to develop a platform/community of practice/network to allow for sharing data/experiences using peer learning. Member states will need to be involved as well as a moderator.

5. Analyze Commonalities and Differences Among C&I Processes

Idea:

In order to increase understandings and consistency between existing SFM C&I Frameworks and other SFM reporting functions (FAO FRA, SDGs 15.2, certification systems, etc.), we propose an analysis of the commonalities and differences between C&I processes. This exercise will contribute to the consolidation and harmonization of reporting measures, reduce redundancy, and add clarity to the complex landscape of SFM reporting at multiple scales. In particular, this work may have important implications for the upcoming FAO CFRQ and FRA 2020 reporting cycle

Outcome:

- A better understanding of SFM in relation to all C&I processes.
- Increased consistency and clarity in different reporting processes.
- Added evidence and data to support the claim that forests contribute to many ecosystem services related to climate change, poverty, health and other societal goals.
- A better understanding of how FRA, for example, could be linked to SFM.
- A better understanding of the commonalities between different processes aimed at SFM (C&I, SDGs, certification).
- Documenting the clear relationships between these process.
- Efficiency gains through the consolidation, harmonization, and improvement of data collection.

Target audience: Policy-makers, practitioners, and other interested parties engaged in either C&I or global reporting processes.

Milestones:

1. FAO will hire FRA coordinators, who will steer the process mid-2016.
2. Establishing a network of people and providing technical and funding resources
3. Coordination of the participatory process (FRA coordinator) 2016-17 (note this leverages existing work)
4. The report will be compiled and a technical manual will be developed by 2017
5. To apply to the extent possible, the findings of the report (2017)

Resources: Technical expertise and experiences from countries and processes

Possible Champion: FAO

Potential Collaborators: International forest organizations

Discussion/notes:

- The report initiated through this proposal can be used both as a scoping document and an assessment.
- To be successful, the report will need international bodies to be involved in the process.

- There is a need for more practical convening of parties to help explore what tools exist and synergies/efficiencies that exist.
- It will be really useful to get the differences in the definitions of SFM, as well as how C&I link to certification.
- Understanding the commonalities and differences between the government reporting and operational business indicators is important. Further discussion may be required involving representatives from national reporting and operational levels.
- While it is important to note that there are other important actors beyond FRA for this assessment, FRA2020 could be a good opportunity to emphasize the results of this assessment. FRA data has been important for comparing discussions across countries, but the requirements for certification, REDD+ and FLEGT are very different from those for FRA. There may be an opportunity and need to undertake a separate assessment of C&I that is focused on practitioners.

6. Analyze the Evolution of SFM Indicator Processes and the Lessons Learned

Idea: To write a joint, peer-reviewed paper on the C&I development and impacts that shows the progress towards SFM. Incorporate perspectives of regional processes, certification bodies, and other stakeholders to understand and demonstrate the developments and impacts.

Target Audience: Science, Nature, or other academic journal

Milestones:

- Early draft in Jan 2017
- IUFRO conference in September 2017

Outcomes:

- Broaden the awareness and visibility of C&I applications
- Comparative scientific review

Champion: IUFRO Working Party

Discussion/notes:

1. In addition to its achievement, it may be worthwhile to note the respective challenges of monitoring and assessing the indicator-based data.
2. The first step in this kind of review is often describing case studies, detailing the influence of C&I with regards to changes to forest policies/management.
3. Part of the challenge is moving from indicative information to definitive information. It will have to be a synthetic and narrative approach, which identifies where impacts are most definitive.
4. One option is to send out a questionnaire to different governments and institutions on how C&I has been used/useful.

Next Steps

The participants signed up to contribute to one or more of the six action proposals. The table below lists the participants and the designated participant who will send out the first follow-up email to the group.

	Individual(s) to send instigation email	Other contributors
Develop a Core Set of Indicators to Use in Global Forest-related Reporting	Simon Bridge and Ewald Rametsteiner	Chris Henschel, Samsudin Musa, Kit Prins, Simon Bridge, Andrew Wilson, Stefanie Linser, Maria Palenova, Rastislav Raši, Tomasz Juszcak, Karl Hughes, Marie-France Roussel, Ewald Rametsteiner, Florian Steierer, Roman Michalak
Report Progress on Global Commitments	Tomasz Juszcak	Kit Prins, Rastislav Raši, Joanne Frappier, Judi Beck, Marie-France Roussel, Andres Meza, Ewald Rametsteiner
Integrate C&I into Inter-sectoral Policy Decision-making and Planning	John Hall	Olivier Ahimin, Rich Verbisky, Simon Bridge, Lambert Okrah, Valerie-Fumey Nassah, Bernhard Wolfslehner, Matej Schwarz, Ewald Rametsteiner
Share Knowledge and Build National Capacity	Valerie-Fumey Nassah	Chris Henschel, Tim Payn, Fabiola Reygadas, Maria Palenova, Pablo Laclau, Matej Schwarz, Andres Meza, Ewald Rametsteiner, Florian Steierer, Roman Michalak
Analyze Commonalities and Differences Among C&I Processes	Guy Robertson	Chris Henschel, Samsudin Musa, John Hall, Stephanie Linser, Takeshi Goto
Analyze the Evolution of SFM Indicator Processes and the Lessons Learned.	Stephanie Linser	Andrew Wilson, Guy Robertson, John Hall, Tim Payn, Stefanie Linser, Bernhard Wolfslehner, Takeshi Goto, Simon Bridge, Tomasz Juszcak

Participants recognized that the results of this workshop will need to be shared in various ways to sustain the momentum of the conversations held during the workshop. In addition to sharing this report, participants noted additional ways that the results could be shared, including:

- Writing articles (magazine) and reports
- Brief up and brief out (e.g. foreign affairs)
- Prepare for COFO meeting
 - There will be a side event on C&I
 - There could be a side meeting on FRA
 - Steering committee will strategize and advise
- Liaison work (e.g. executive of Future Earth)
- Speaking to technical working group
- Include to communications to those who did not attend but were invited

Consolidated milestones from action proposals:

Part of this exercise was to develop milestones with approximate dates. The timeline below shows an integrated list of the timing of various milestones of each action proposal. Note that this is a reflection of what was stated at the meeting and the dates are subject to change. The items are colour coded for the different proposal as follows:

- Develop a Core Set of Indicators to Use in Global Forest-related Reporting
- Report Progress on Global Commitments
- Integrate C&I into Inter-sectoral Policy Decision-making and Planning
- Share Knowledge and Build National Capacity
- Analyze Commonalities and Differences among C&I Processes

2016

- May 2016 - Table proposal to UNFF for UNFF to lead/enable a group of C&I experts [from all global processes and other sectors, along with users] to develop a core set of indicators
- June 2016 - Conceptual description text of 'pilot' aimed at the integration of sustainable development principles into sectoral and cross-sectoral decision-making to FE, ITTO, MPWG and FAO
- July 2016 - Cross walk of all SFM – related indicator processes
- July 2016 - Assessment of SFM and other forest related indicator priorities of various global processes
- July 2016 – Establish Steering Group
- August 2016 - 'Pilot' championed through MPWG, FAO, ITTO, and FE
- Mid 2016 - Once a FRA co-ordinator is hired, it will be proposed that they become a champion for an assessment of different C&I processes
- September 2016 – Develop GEF7 SFM24 seed grant for proposal development
- Sept to Nov. 2016 - High-level (broad scale experts) workshop to initial core indicator set under UNFF/FAO (country led initiative)
- Dec. 2016- Communicate and solicit feedback from collaborators including MP C&I, ITTO, etc.
- 2016 - Secure resources for conducting the assessment of different C&I processes
- 2016-2017 Coordination of participatory process including taking stock of previous analyses
- 2016 to 2021 – Workshops for capacity building, harmonizing, streamlining, and reporting

2017

- Early 2017 – Develop gap analysis and materials review document. Develop and submit full proposal
- April 2017 – Report addressing data/information gaps
- May 2017 - Table final core set with UNFF
- Mid 2017 – Launch Report
- August 2017 – Findings reported back after ‘pilot’ is presented at each AGM (FE, MPWG, ITTO, FAO)
- 2017 - Compilation of report (Technical manual)
- End of 2017 – Application to extend, possibly in revision of CTRQ

2018

- August 2018 – Feedback from ‘Pilot’ compiled by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the UN into discussion paper to prompt/encourage pursuit of what works by C&I processes and beyond. Paper to be shared with Regional Forest Commissions (NAFC, COFLAC, etc.).

2019

- September 2019 – Project finished (but continues self-sustaining)

Timeline of scheduled events, agreements, and targets

The participants created a visual timeline of important events for C&I for SFM beginning after the workshop to as far in the future as 2024. These items are important to consider in the planning, coordinating and implementing.

2016

- May 11-12 - Forest Europe Expert Level Meeting¹⁰
- May 23-25 - African Forest Forum FLEGT
- May-June - Revised ITTO C&I published
- July 18-22 – COFO meeting¹¹
- August 9-10 – International Conference on Sustainable Forest Development in view of Climate Change¹²
- August 1-5 – Montreal Process Working Group meeting
- August – Regional Training Workshop for SFM guidelines in Africa
- September 4-9 XIII Junior Forest Context in Russia
- October 4 – UNFF – IAEG – SDG
- October – UNFF – AHEG2
- December 2 (week of) – Convention of Biological Diversity meeting: streamlining biodiversity in the forest (COP 13)¹³
- U.S. Montreal Process C&I application to agricultural and urban forests
- Regional Workshops in Asia and Africa: Sustainable AG/FO/FI
- FRA 2020: Enquiry and network set-up begin
- SDG reporting annually and major milestones
- Technical expert meetings for Paris Agreement begin in (2016-2020)
- Publication of State of the World's Forests Report

2017

- February – Prototype set of indicators to monitor impact of SFM to national development in Peru
- September IUFRO Congress in Freiburg, Germany
- October – New Programme of work (2017-2020) in Poland
- Fall - North American Forest Commission meeting in Canada (WG on indicators and forest assessment)

¹⁰ <http://www.foresteurope.org/content/expert-level-meetings-2016>

¹¹ <http://www.fao.org/about/meetings/cofo/en/>

¹² <http://www.forr.upm.edu.my/sp/page/4509/SFDCC2016>

¹³ <https://www.cbd.int/doc/?meeting=cop-13>

- Between September and December – FSC General Assembly (members)
- May – International Conference on Mangrove (ITTO) in Bali
- May – UNFF 12 Technology and science meetings with focus on SFM implementation
- Between June and August– Latin America Forest Congress in Central America
- Regional Forestry Commissions: COFCAC, AFWC, NERFC, APFC, NA
- Montreal Process 4th Country Reporting Process Cycle begins (2017-2020)
- U.S. Montreal Process C&I Application on tropical forests
- U.S. Montreal Process C&I Report

2018

- October - 4th International Planted Forests Congress in China
- COFO meeting 2018: COAG and COFI
- SDG indicator review and revision
- State of the World's Forests Report

2019

- IUFRO World Conference in Curitiba, Brazil

2020

- Between September and December – FSC General Assembly (members)
- Target year for SDG Target 15.2
- Target year for Aichi Biodiversity
- FRA 2020
- U.S. Montreal Process C&I
- Paris Agreement entry into force
- Forest Europe Ministerial Conference in Bratislava

2021

- World Forestry Congress

2024

- Paris Agreement 1st Global stock take of nationally determined contributions – Forest sector is major mitigation sector

Annex 1: Participant List

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Annex 2: Agenda

Sunday, May 1, 2016

DAY 1: Strengthening Relationships

Note – May 1 (Sunday) is a full working day.

Time	Topic	Activity
0815	Registration	Hotel Lobby
0900	Bus Travel and Site Visit	1 hour Bus trip from Ottawa hotel to Wheelers Maple Products (rain or shine) Short tour of maple forest, visit maple syrup production house & a small museum. Participants to purchase their meal from Maple House. http://www.wheelersmaple.com/
1215	Bus Travel	Travel by bus to community hall in McDonald's Corners
1230	Welcome	Meeting Welcome: logistics, workshop structure, agenda, introductions
1245	Opening Remarks	Opening Remarks from Co-hosts Ewald Rametsteiner and Joanne Frappier
1315	Expectations	Participants share work objectives
1335	Identifying Best Practices	Small Group Work to share past experiences in taking concrete action to advance the use of C&I to develop and/or promote SFM
1435	Break	
1450	Strengthening Relationships	Participants prepare and share summarized information about themselves and their organizations using a template.
1620	Wrap Up	Review Highlights of day Identify Joint Statement Drafting Team
1700	Bus Travel	Bus drive back to hotel in Ottawa

Monday, May 2, 2016

DAY 2: Exploring Possibilities

Location: Delta Hotel meeting room - *Salon Joliet-Frontenac*

Time	Topic	Activity
0830	Day 2 Welcome	Overview of Day 2
0845	Identifying Proposals for Action	Small Group Activity - Participants review the ideas generated through the pre-workshop questionnaire and add further proposals.
1000	Break	Group Picture
1015	Create Working Teams	Working Teams craft a proposal for each idea for action
1200	Lunch	Lunch – at Participants expense – buffet available at the hotel Joint Statement Group Meetings – prepare outline
1300	Strengthening the Proposals	Feedback Rounds – review and revise
1530	Presentation of Proposals	Proposals are presented in plenary
1630	Timeline	Group Activity Mapping the Future to 2020
1650	End of Day 2	Review highlights and identify Workshop Report Review Team
1730	Dinner	Group Dinner (all are requested to attend)

Tuesday, May 3, 2016

DAY 3: Action Planning

Location: Delta Hotel meeting room - *Salon Joliet-Frontenac*

Time	Topic	Activity
0830	Welcome Back	Review Agenda/Logistics
0845	Vision and measures of performance	Developing outcome statements and performance metrics for proposed areas of action
0945	Development of joint outcome statement	In Plenary, the outcome statement for each proposed area of action is shared and posted on the wall. Facilitated discussion to create a vision statement that unites all proposed outcome statements.
1015	Break	Joint Outcome statement team works to make the vision words into a joint statement for presentation in plenary.
1030	Review Joint Statement	In plenary –review and revise the draft joint statement
1200	Lunch	Lunch – at Participants expense – buffet available at the hotel
1300	Plenary	Plenary Revisit roadmap large group for final review –modification
1400	Break	
1500	Next Steps	Plenary Map out Next steps And Wrap up
1530	Evaluation	Participant Evaluation
1600	Closing Remarks	Participants share their closing comments ending with Joanne and Ewald wrapping up with thanks and inspiration for continued concrete action.

Annex 3: Sustainable Development Goals¹⁴

The group discussed the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) in recognition that this is a high-profile indicator based initiative as part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The group recognized that this initiative may offer opportunities for using and advancing C&I.

The UN Statistical Commission, through the Inter-agency Expert Group, on Sustainable Development Goal Indicators (IAEG-SDG) was mandated to come up with an indicator framework. A report by IAEG-SDG was presented to the Statistical commission, including approximately 230 indicators.

The indicators used for demonstrating sustainable forest management may be able to demonstrate progress towards a number of the SDGs, including most notably goal 15, and its target 15.2. Other targets within goal 15 may benefit from forest indicators, such as taking action to reduce degradation of natural habitats and ensuring the conservation, restoration, and sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems and their services. Further, other SDGs where forest indicators may be useful include (to name a few): ensuring sustainable consumption and production patterns, taking urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts, and ensuring the sustainable management of water.

Goal 15

Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss

Target 15.2

By 2020, promote the implementation of sustainable management of all types of forests, halt deforestation, restore degraded forests and substantially increase afforestation and reforestation globally

¹⁴ <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/sdg15>

Annex 4: Expanded Initial Expectations

List of initial impressions at the workshop

In the first activity at the McDonald's Corners Agricultural Hall, the group sat in a circle and each participant provided their expectations and insights in sequence. The expectations and insights mentioned, as categorized above, were:

Reduce the number of and streamline indicators

- Organizations have many processes to comply with, and sometimes people back off due to complexity. Focus on a smaller number of indicators to increase the accessibility and communication in all directions.
- Importance of streamlining and getting results that are relevant locally and globally.
- The need to look at the landscape levels indicators.
- Consistency on collecting and quality of the data. Need the same parameters, etc. The forum can come up with ideas of how to promote C&I. Need to satisfy ecological and social needs, forest workers need to be considered in the social side.
- Complying with all of the processes for demonstrating SFM is becoming complicated and expensive. Try to harmonize the data are collected for demonstrating SFM, to simplify the building of national information systems. Reporting can also be streamlined.
- We have a plethora of C&I processes developing in various forms. We don't have consistency in how we collect and report data. We need harmonization to collect once and report many times.

Link the C&I with a higher profile initiative

- How do you make this work resonate at the political level? There may be opportunities to develop strategies for international organizations to increase the involvement of national governments. It is important to learn how these international meetings can help to encourage governments to adopt recommendations.
- Forest certification may be a platform to help to create solutions for the challenges facing C&I.
- C&I will help to input into other processes (REDD, etc.).
- There is interest in creating an index as a way to simplify indicators (e.g. Sustainable development goals). C&I need to be made more attractive.
- The statement (co-chairs' note) needs to be delivered to the UNFF.

Understand the broad value of forests

- Globally, forests are affected by the same things, including other sectors.
- A framework for C&I for SFM must include considerations other sectors at national level.
- C&I framework revision is needed due to climate change, globalization, the emerging bioeconomy and other sources of global change.
- It is important to understand how traditional knowledge can be used to inform C&I.
- We need to consider the value proposition of C&I.

Develop a common voice

- It is also important to create a unified voice for C&I and to build a recognizable brand. C&I is advice that decision-makers can reach to when making decisions.
- The group has a duty to try to make C&I more relevant for decision-makers.
- How to build synergies between different initiatives (UNFCCC, FAO, etc.)? We don't need to start fresh but rather to build on past experiences but take innovative approaches to transform what exists, in terms of policy-making around C&I process.
- At the end of the day, people can speak confidently and clearly about what is SFM, and how to measure. We will have concrete actions that will help us to go forward.

Organize to help each other

- Find new data sharing opportunities
- A challenge that needs to be overcome is how to co-ordinate better between the various levels of C&I at the strategic/political level and the technical/practical level.
- Share experiences about C&I projects may offer the chance to learn from the successes and failures of others.
- There is a wealth of data but a lack of people who understand, as well as issues of science-policy integration, as scientists and policy analysts do not always speak the same language.
- Some countries will need capacity building and different tools/collaborations to go forward with C&I.
- Need to create some kind of knowledge platform in a simple format for forest and forestry issues. Needs to incorporate data sharing and improve communication of data. It needs to be usable for different political levels. Need to use coherent sets of indicators.

Communicate content

- Find opportunities for practical application of C&I through science policy integration.
- C&I can help developing countries to communicate with more organizations and be more transparent.
- C&I can improve communication. In some ways, countries are becoming more closed (e.g. security issues). There is a gap in getting decision-makers to consider C&I. Inter-sectoral collaborations will strengthen the proposal to use C&I. Learn from others' experiences and bring back information to organizations, and think of new strategies.
- Sharing experiences and validating with others. The challenge is to demonstrate value. C&I are one of the best ways to track and show a comprehensive assessment of a resource.
- At the political level, many leaders are not paying much attention, though reporting (e.g. on government websites) may get many views. C&I is used by NGOs for lobbying, for example.
- C&I define SFM, if we change C&I we change SFM as well. Public doesn't understand the definition of SFM but may understand C&I. Indexes may be necessary, but difficult to understand. Incremental improvement is acceptable; not all solutions needed immediately.
- There is a need to improve translation of the differences across different sets of indicators.

Annex 5: Common Success Factors of C&I Projects

The participants were randomly assigned to 5 groups to discuss past projects, with an emphasis on identifying common success factors. The projects and success factors identified are listed for each group.

Some of the projects considered in this exercise include:

- PEFC – Good example of C&I for SFM
- Development of SDGs
- Various certification schemes and national forest monitoring schemes.
- FSC – Implementing the UN declaration on FPIC
- The Montreal Process
- National reporting with legislated requirement to report.

Success Factors:

- Having a champion that has credibility and networks to leverage.
- Having adaptability of the people and framework to the conditions that need to be addressed, including being able to use parts of the framework isolation.
 - Ex. Finland dropped fire because it was not an issue for them but they added other indicators. The framework allowed them to add and drop indicators as needed.
- Simplifying the explanation of the C&I framework and to finding ways to make it easy to talk to policy- and decision-makers.
- Having lots of and effective communication.
- It was really useful to listen to the needs of the stakeholders and then to adapt, rather than presenting what you have.
- Identify what is policy-relevant and change reporting.
- Focus on end-user needs.
- It is important to have a willingness to collaborate by different groups.
- It is important to be forward looking at proactive before there are calls for C&I.
- Continuity is a success factor.
- Motivation can cease after a certain goal is reached. New objectives could be very important in maintaining motivation.
- Auditing and reporting is important, but they could be functionally used to come up with corrective actions. Corrective action will come from the local level, with the context of the country in mind. Knowing which way you want the indicators to go is important (Corrective action is the term from management. It is generally not used at the national level). Corrective action is about regulation/imposing policy. It would be complementary to a voluntary market-based system.
- There are context indicators that are descriptive but do not necessarily indicate whether forests is sustainable. It is important to think about each indicator. SFM assessments are overlooked

because they are difficult and context specific. There has to be some judgment in the end about sustainability.

- The locus of assessment and decision-making is SFM.
- If politics are too close to the C&I process the data collecting and reporting may be compromised.
- Commitment from technical and political folk and resources.
- Important to extend results to get commitment from politicians and decision-makers.
- The need was flexible but built around generic structures. For example, objectives might be based around Caribou in the Boreal and primates in the Congo Basin.
- Project needed to be affordable and predictable for companies. They needed to know what indicators they would have to meet the standards and that there would be consequences for not meeting the standards.
- Having certification bodies use C&I is a success. Having private landowners use as well would be a success. Certification has a role but cannot play all the roles/replace government.
- The effect of having a conceptual framework in place would help evidence based decision-making, especially if it multi-sectoral. It would give confidence to stakeholders if the framework was rigorous, internationally accepted. Having a credible and authoritative suite of broad measures and considerations helps to 'keep the blood pressure down' of people in discussions of forest management. The framework helps people to take part in the dialogue (gives a common vocabulary and structure).
- It is important to internalize and or formalize the use of indicators into forest management plans at the national level. It is not a clear goal in some countries. C&I might show that there is deforestation but in some countries it is only mentioned but there is no corrective action. There is an opportunity to make national forest plans that incorporate C&I with clear goals. Some countries see it as too prescriptive and as a punishment.

Annex 6: Questionnaire Responses

Summary of actions in questionnaire

The workshop participants were given a survey questionnaire with 5 questions prior to the workshop to create a list of potential projects for advancing C&I. In regards to specific actions that could be undertaken, the questions were:

1. What is the idea?
2. What is the ultimate outcome?
3. Who needs to be involved?
4. What would success look like?
5. How would the world be different?

By comparing and consolidating the responses to questionnaire, 14 key ideas for action emerged:

- 1.) Consolidate C&I
- 2.) Separate reporting and sustainability assessment
- 3.) Institute consistent data collecting mechanism
- 4.) Engage broader public in SFM discussions
- 5.) Select and develop key cases. *Cases can be countries/region/forest types and they will allow*
- 6.) Develop C&I interpretation manuals
- 7.) Build and interactive C&I database - Key forest indicators platform (KFIP)
- 8.) Harmonize C&I for tropical regions
- 9.) Create set of C&I to monitor and evaluate national forest policies
- 10.) Worldwide index of progress towards SFM
- 11.) Create C&I incentive system
- 12.) Integrate C&I into certification standards
- 13.) Integrate C&I into safeguards for REDD+
- 14.) Establish communication system between C&I processes

Questionnaire compilation

What is the idea? What is the ultimate outcome?	Who needs to be involved?	What would success look like? How would the world be different?
<i>Consolidate and institutionalize regular international, national and regional reporting on key indicators of SFM. Develop core sets of indicators that are simple and span geographic units.</i>	<i>International, national and regional governing and reporting bodies (mostly national and regional—take international [particularly FRA] mainly as given).</i>	<i>Streamlined, regular and consistent reporting with reduced duplication of effort. Information sources known and easily accessible to public at multiple geographic scales.</i>
<i>Separate indicator reporting and sustainability judgements to the extent practicable and institute clean and consistent data delivery mechanisms while recognizing that data has multiple uses.</i>	<i>National and regional reporting bodies with cross fertilization from other sectors and scales</i>	<i>Accessible and up-to-date data delivery mechanisms in place and used by broader forest community.</i>
<i>Periodically engage broader publics in forest sustainability discussions founded on the factual information provided by indicator reporting systems (recognize that SFM judgements are the subject of broad public discussion and debate).</i>	<i>International, national and regional governing bodies in combination with external communities (Academia, industry, NGOs, etc.)</i>	<i>Periodic FSM assessments engage broader publics on the topics pertinent to SFM. Multiple perspectives are reflected.</i>
<i>Select key cases (countries, regions, forest types, etc.) to monitor in real-time and scale the inter-agency joint work. Periodical reports on progress, successes, problems and real needs to use and report the SFM C&I in diverse socioeconomic and political situation and levels</i>	<i>Governments, related Intergovernmental Organizations (not only forest), C & I processes, NGOs, local communities, private companies</i>	<i>Better coherence among international deliberations to promote joint and collaborative work, with the real potential and difficulties. Allowing concentrate the innovations efforts forward</i>

What is the idea? What is the ultimate outcome?	Who needs to be involved?	What would success look like? How would the world be different?
<p><i>Selection of 10-15 key (core) quantitative indicators (with close link to the qualitative indicators) from the original C&I set. Those indicators could also be adapt to the other sectors needs on forestry issues (such as climate change, biodiversity, water sector, human health related to forests, bioeconomy) Outcome will be more focused, important, clear and understandable indicators, working also as the platform for discussion with other sectors. The core indicators give the short and most important information on forestry for policy makers and other interested citizens, as well as for forest sector</i></p>	<p><i>This procedure does work at various levels; international, national and sub-national level, as well as at forest management unit/ certification purposes</i></p> <p><i>Those selected indicators has been applied tentative by EU Standing Forest Committee as basis on the FOREST EUROPE indicators, and at national level in some European countries such as Finland, Lithuania, Austria</i></p>	<p><i>By using the core indicators the definitions, indicator names and content of indicators are similar. Through this approach we could give updated principal and short information on our forests and their importance in changing world. The long list of indicators are too complicated and too precise, and the main messages can be lost</i></p>
<p><i>The gradual development of common comprehensive interpretation manual for each indicator that has an “ambition” to be used worldwide. There are still many misunderstandings and misinterpretations, even within one particular process.</i></p> <p><i>The development should start with the most important indicators. FRA definitions are a good basis, however, something more comprehensive would be helpful.</i></p>	<p><i>FAO, representatives of the relevant regional processes</i></p>	<p><i>These manuals should include something like “substitutional definitions” of terms to bridge national and regional specifics. For example: “in countries with protective forests defined in the legislation and with restrictions put on logging in other forests, this parameter is understood as the area of ..., in countries with no legally binding definition of protective forests but with restrictions of logging related to soil and water protection, this parameter is understood as ..., etc, etc”. Detailed explanations why this indicator, how it is related to the criterion and to SFM should be also included.</i></p> <p><i>These manuals would improve the quality of national reports and their mutual comparability.</i></p>

What is the idea? What is the ultimate outcome?	Who needs to be involved?	What would success look like? How would the world be different?
<p><i>An agreement to produce a single set of data/information that can meet major reporting needs related to forests as a common assets of the international forest community (The idea is to move one more step forward from CFRQ by increasing commonalities in core variables/indicators among processes)</i></p> <p><i>Such initiative would benefit all and still allows the continuation of the existing regional processes for their respective needs.</i></p>	<p><i>ITTO, FAO, all regional C&I processed and other relevant international bodies related to forests</i></p> <p><i>Some very specific reporting needs may not be met for the sake of maximum simplicity and practicality of the work</i></p>	<p><i>As a result:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>• Burden on countries as well as the institutions would be further reduced;</i> <i>• Unity among the processes and bodies would be enhanced; and</i> <i>• Visibility of the efforts of forest sector would be increased internationally.</i>
<p>Put in place a multi-stakeholders and multi-sectorial (Agriculture, mining, urbanisation, etc.) platform to discuss on issues related to SFM at national and subnational level. The main outcome will be an agreement on a set of indicators to be applied to all sectors in order to support and enhance SFM in all kind of project and activities</p>	<p><i>At national level, all the ministries and entities in charge of question related to forest degradation or restoration, all the experts with proved knowledge and experience in SFM and involvement of other sectors.</i></p> <p><i>At international level, all institutions in charge of forest dialogue, agriculture, mining, etc.</i></p>	<p><i>An agreement on how to include forests and forestry (SFM) in all other policies for the development of the country or the region. Once the agreement is reached at international level, discussions can start at national and sub national levels to implement or adapt the agreement to national/local condition.</i></p> <p><i>More dialogue at all levels will led to a better management of forests and forestry</i></p>
<p><i>Build an interactive system for C&I database</i></p> <p><i>Have registered actual data on C&I applied</i></p>	<p>Agencies (Natural resources), Government (forestry secretariat), Organizations, stakeholders (technicians, owners).</p>	<p>Knowledge from experience, lessons on the C&I application (costs, benefit: ecological, economic and social). Identify and perceive the C&I as a tool to attain SFM</p>

What is the idea? What is the ultimate outcome?	Who needs to be involved?	What would success look like? How would the world be different?
<p><i>The idea is to collect, develop and integrate analytical and systemic features C&I in order to facilitate decision-making process for SFM on all levels and to improve the availability and accessibility to forest-related information in order to facilitate policy- and decision-making</i></p> <p><i>The idea based on existing systems of criteria and indicators of sustainable forest management.</i></p> <p><i>The ultimate outcome is Key Forest Indicator Platform or Hub (KFIP)</i></p>	<p><i>International C&I processes</i></p> <p><i>FAO</i></p> <p><i>United Nations Economic Commissions</i></p> <p><i>United Nations Statistics Division</i></p> <p><i>Countries and local organizations</i></p>	<p><i>The KFIP is a platform through which data can be represented in graphs, charts, and tables. Selected indicators from different C&I regional processes, CFRQ, FRA, and other source are displayed, although more indicators or variables can be added in the future. The main purpose of the KFIP is to provide information in a simple format in order to maximize its widespread use.</i></p> <p><i>Thanks to its Members and Partners International C&I processes and FAO have access to key data, information and reporting on decision related data to forests and forestry. The KFIP as a knowledge hub on forests and forestry related issues, thus created by project, is a vital global public good which then will support of all forest related entities and stakeholders.</i></p>
<p><i>To harmonize different C&I systems for tropical regions, enhancing the national and regional levels,</i></p>	<p><i>FAO-ACTO-ATO-ASIAN</i></p>	<p><i>Better cooperation and understanding of the real and actual value of using harmonized C&I , promoting SFM on the tropical regions</i></p>
<p><i>Elaboration of a set of C&I to monitor and evaluate the forest policies and NFP contribution to the national development and SDO</i></p>	<p><i>PUBLIC, PRIVATE AND CIVIL SOCIETY</i></p> <p><i>(main bodies related to forest sector and socioeconomic issues)</i></p>	<p><i>To demonstrate that the contribution of the forest sector from the tropical regions is far beyond the current estimations</i></p>

What is the idea? What is the ultimate outcome?	Who needs to be involved?	What would success look like? How would the world be different?
<p>Although the advent of CFRQ to reduce reporting efforts and improve data consistency has created a suitable harmonized framework, it is always obvious to note that the data centralization systems to power the questionnaire on the basis PI&I of management and forest monitoring at national level know very large failures. For example in the COMIFAC countries member and elsewhere, regional processes generally depend on an individual (Focal Point) or a group of individuals (Groupe National de Travail) that relays national forest information. Although these are generally agents of the ministries in charge of forests, this process has no long-term guarantee for reasons such as:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) The phenomenon of turnover which is very well known in our administrations does not allow stability because the agent formed and reinforced regularly, set up to monitor the process, is quickly transferred in another city or even another service not relevant to the process. 2) The focal point, or members of GNT are not always available for the 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Countries (ministry in charge of forest) • Processes such as OAB/OIBT, OFAC, CENUE/FAO, FOREST EUROPE, Groupe de Travail du Processus de Montréal Regional organisations 	

What is the idea? What is the ultimate outcome?	Who needs to be involved?	What would success look like? How would the world be different?
<p>activities of the process because already taken by their sovereign activities</p> <p>3) Official recognition of information given sometimes request a validation workshop or have to be validated by the hierarchy, hence cumbersome process and additional funding.</p> <p>To overcome these difficulties, the idea that we proposed and that seems very effective to countries that adhere to these processes and organizations that develop these processes is to set up observatories or forest data centers under the supervision of ministries of forests with the responsibility among others to centralize and make available the data following a C & I framework harmonized by regional organizations such as COMIFAC which processes would directly depend on. This approach will not only promote, but also institutionalize the use of an harmonized PC & I</p>		

What is the idea? What is the ultimate outcome?	Who needs to be involved?	What would success look like? How would the world be different?
<p><i>World-wide applicable Index of progress towards Sustainable Forest Management to serve the needs of the SDG target 15.2, accepted by all C&I processes and forest related international organisations and stakeholders.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>All (active) C&I processes (Montreal Process, FOREST EUROPE, LFCC Process,</i> • <i>International forest related organisations and data provider like FAO, UNECE, CIFOR, ITTO, EFI, IUFRO UNFF, ...</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Such an index should be composed of not more than 8 jointly agreed and worldwide significant (headline) indicators.</i> • <i>The data availability should be feasible within 5 years.</i> • <i>A joint method of computation/agreement on scoring should be reached (not judging countries against a rigid universal standard)</i> → <i>Such an Index of SFM would be an easily comprehensible as well as easily communicable tool for policy-makers and stakeholders. A positive side effect would be if related processes like CBD, UNFCCC or UNCCD could use single indicators out of this headline set to serve their related information needs.</i>
<p><i>Bases on the early draft background paper for C&I as incentives for SFM, to undertake efforts to make C&I more effective on the ground to incentivize sustainable practices, in particular with regards to</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Providing better access to use rights (with a strong focus on community forests)</i> - <i>Providing better access to funding (from national to international)</i> 	<p><i>Community forestry experts, funding organisations, market actors, certification schemes</i></p> <p><i>Experts with experience on using C&I as incentives for sustainable forestry practices</i></p>	<p><i>Generate a more systematic approach towards C&I based incentives</i></p> <p><i>Generating a better osmosis between policy and practice levels of SFM</i></p> <p><i>Generate better impact of SFM initiatives to small scale forest holders and communities</i></p> <p><i>Develop novel instruments for SFM funding and market access</i></p>

What is the idea? What is the ultimate outcome?	Who needs to be involved?	What would success look like? How would the world be different?
<i>Providing better access to markets (certification and lower profile approaches)</i>		
<p><i>The establishment of a criteria and indicator platform within nations and across nations for sharing information and providing support for incorporating PC&I into national policies and monitoring /audit frameworks at all levels.</i></p> <p><i>The overall objective is to have a web-based platform as well as cross country interventions ,study tours and facilitators where necessary</i></p>	<p><i>Within countries all stakeholders involved in sustainable natural resource management ,(government institutions (Ministry (PPMED), Forestry Commissions), landowners, Non-Governmental Organisations , forest fringe communities , FAO national and regional offices should be able to audit their activities</i></p> <p><i>Across nations identified auditors and practitioners with the Sector should be linked to the platform</i></p>	<p><i>There would be success in enhancing collaboration and sustainable natural resource management when experiences in developing national PCIs and potential opportunities and challenges in monitoring is available through such a platform and practitioners know who to consult or what to do to incorporate PCI in existing SFM systems</i></p>
Better integrate C&I as an internationally accepted definition of SFM into certification standards, so that local level forest management planning and reporting might better integrate with and feed into national and international reporting on SFM	C&I processes such as the ITTO, Forest Europe, Montreal Process, etc and internationally recognized certification standards such as PEFC, FSC and SFI	The international understanding of SFM based on the common thematic elements of SFM, as adopted by UNFF and enshrined in the non-legally binding instrument on all types of forests is more clearly reflected in certification standards, and readers could more clearly link local level certification audits to national or international reports on SFM
Explore options to integrate C&I into safeguards for REDD+ so that efforts to reduce emissions are also able to demonstrate that they are contributing to the sustainable management of forests	UNFCCC, C&I processes such as the ITTO, Forest Europe, Montreal Process, etc	Reporting on safeguards takes advantage of already agreed definitions of SFM and, to the extent possible, uses data that is already collected for sub-national or national level reporting. There is greater confidence that programs to reduce emissions also result in sustainably managed forests.

What is the idea? What is the ultimate outcome?	Who needs to be involved?	What would success look like? How would the world be different?
<i>National forest program for the conservation and enhancement of sinks and reservoirs of greenhouse gases are established by every country in a way that is consistent with the achievement of the Paris Agreement objective to hold the increase in the global average temperature to well below 2 °C above pre-industrial levels, taking into due consideration multiple benefits generated by goods and services forests provide.</i>	<i>Country representatives, UNFCCC and other relevant international organizations, potential donor organizations</i>	<i>The forest sector will be able to contribute to the mitigation of climate change through collective actions so as to achieve a balance between anthropogenic emissions by sources and removals by sinks of greenhouse gases.</i>
<i>A communication system among C&I processes is established to enable exchange of information, whenever possible, on policy framework for any thematic topics.</i>	<i>Country focal points for C&I, secretariat or liaison office of each C&I process</i>	<i>Every country will be able to collect information from other countries concerning good practices on a certain thematic area in an effective manner and by so doing help improve forest policy or programs.</i>

Annex 7: Developing Action Proposals

Scoping Actions

As the first step in developing proposals, the group had a conversation in an attempt to scope the requirements action for achieving the long-term objectives of the workshop. The suggested requirements for actions were that each:

- Has an appropriate timeframe (e.g. Last 2-3 years)
- Leverages C&I
- Has a clear objective
- Fits within the budgets
- Has consensus (i.e. of the organization)
- Has access to resources (Who is going to do it? Who could implement? Are the resources and time available?)
- Is feasible
- Creates impact that is sustainable
- Has the necessary enabling conditions
- Is efficient and effective (i.e., not duplicating, but rather building on and bringing together what has already been done)
- Has clear objectives and a clear picture of what success looks like
- Advances a shared goal or value
- Is obvious why the deliverable and the project as a whole are useful
- Helps to redefine the value of C&I
- Provides accountability – need to explain it to the people.
- Can be clearly articulated and communicated
- Has a communications plan (or one can be developed)
- Speaks to a higher-level decision-makers, but is implementable on the ground.

Action Items

The group then went into small groups to develop potential action items, based on the questions and answers from the questionnaire. They were then presented to the group in plenary. The action items were grouped into themes through a clustering exercise. Presented below are the themes with the corresponding ideas from this exercise.

Theme1: Reporting progress on global commitments

- Develop information products, linked to existing requirements, to support New York Agreement, Paris Agreement or any other global agreement

Theme 2: Consolidate a core set of indicators

- Harmonized, institutionalized and practical C&I system with clear goals
- To define a core set of indicators that all countries would report against (Index- like the MPI)
- Consolidate a selected set from the global suite of indicators
- Define key indicators for SFM (SFM=Happiness)
- A nested, attractive set of indicators of SFM

Theme 3: Assessment of different processes

- An analysis of cross-cutting issues with links to other targets
- Explore the relationship between C&I process, REDD+, FLEGT, Certification, CBD, UNFF, and other processes
- Informal working group to produce a crosswalk between organizations (FAO, FRA, UNFF, etc.) and SFM C&I Output

Theme 4: Knowledge sharing and capacity building

- Conduct a series of workshops to build reporting capacity in different countries, making reporting more consistent overall
- Develop a platform where ideas can be shared across nations

Theme 5: Analysis of progress to date

- A journal article covering an analysis of progress and impact of C&I towards SFM

Theme 6: Integrate C&I into decision-making

- Use C&I to support SFM on the ground and bridge the gradient from national, governmental to and certification

Voting on Actions

The action themes, or clusters, were then assigned votes by each participant for the following categories: most important, easiest, most attractive and highest risk. The results of the voting are as follows:

Action themes \ Qualifiers	Reporting progress on global commitments	Consolidate a core set of indicators	Assessment of different processes	Knowledge sharing and capacity building	Analysis of progress to date	Integrate C&I into decision-making
Most Important	7	13	1	9	0	9
Easiest	1	2	14	3	9	0
Most Attractive	5	17	0	0	1	5
Highest Risk	3	7	6	0	0	2

Refining Proposals for Actions

1. The breakout groups that developed the proposals will appoint a person to be their spokesperson
2. The breakout group prepares the spokesperson to present the proposal for 5 minutes
3. The spokesperson presents the proposal in 5 minutes to a different breakout group
4. The spokesperson turns their back to the group and takes notes which the group that received the presentation discusses what they liked, what they did not like, what could be added or different, what was unclear, etc.
5. The spokesperson returns to their group and shares the feedback on the proposal with their original group
6. This process is repeated until several times with spokespersons going to different groups to present their proposals and receive feedback
7. Proposals were then presented to plenary for open discussion and feedback

Annex 8: Feedback from Participants on the Workshop

What went well?

- Great facilitating
- Good pace
- Nice reads on break times
- Great record keeping and insightful prompting when needed
- Time agenda – great!
- Aloud participation = consensus
- We had the right people in the room
- Lots of good will
- Good range of participants well integrated into workshop
- Good room set up
- Really enjoyed establishing new relationships
- Flexible agenda setting
- Facilitation
- Overall structure of workshop in 3 blocks
- Participation of experts from wide range of C&I organizations
- UNSP and UNFCCC
- Trudy! Great Job! (in reference to Trudy Samuel, workshop facilitator)
- Field trip on 1st day!
- Sharing experience with others
- Group work and feedback sessions
- Field trip to Wheelers
- Lots of opportunities to discuss with one another
- Moderating the different perspectives on C&I
- Video interviews and focus on commitment for communication
- Participatory process of the workshop under skilled facilitator
- Welcome, open, and trusting discussions
- Great, open, horizontal communication
- Presentation of individual ideas using post-it notes and flip charts
- Presentation of group results to other groups for feedback
- Appreciated Trudy's lively moderation a lot (in reference to Trudy Samuel, workshop facilitator)
- Facilitation
- Facility/logistics
- Allowing equal participation
- I am happy to know what Florian looks like
- Breadth of C&I knowledge & country participants
- Atmosphere, interactions and emphasis on action
- Very much liked the format
- Got clear actions and plans for action
- The diversity of the group
- Engagement of Participants
- Interactive, participatory approach
- Well facilitated
- Great mix of participants, all very engaged
- Innovative group work!
- Participation was 'deep' and inclusive
- Facilitation – Très bon!

What was tricky?

- Topics discussed were too general
- Ambitious agenda: Did we go far enough on some topics?
- Jet lag
- Day length
- Sunday work
- Not having the same background about international SFM, C&I, and certification upcoming events
- Short times for some breakout sessions
- The workload pushed groups a bit too much and content may have suffered
- Sugary treats too tempting!
- Too many acronyms

What could be done differently?

- Need to find a balance between structure and interaction (C&I is a very structured field!)
- Include work on making an algorithm for infographic about C&I
- Better co-ordination within the country for FRA 2020
- Bit more time allocated for chat times
- FRA coordinator missing
- Earlier objectives of meeting outcomes
- Better weather for the field trip 😊
- Better representation of experts from geographical regions
- Need more windows
- Would have liked to engage in more than one priority area/issue

- Complexity of international agenda
- Time allocation for some activities was too short
- Lack of formal preparation/structure
- Diversity of backgrounds and interests
- Not found
- Timelines for project drafting (5-7mins) were tight (but in the end worked reasonably well)
- Big challenge for team to write up plethora of flip sheets (good luck! You'll do a great job)
- Reaching towards the outcomes
- How to demonstrate SFM with the outcomes of this workshop

- More low and mid-income country participation
- Try to ensure all major regions are represented/present (Africa/Asia?)
- Experts should have been given information on the recent development related to C&I prior to workshop so that proposed actions are relevant to the international circumstances and feasible for implementation
- Can't think of anything
- Participation to be expanded – we need other sectors in the room
- Too much use of paper on walls
- Speak aloud and as clear as you can
- Reduce energy/time spent on 'early leavers'

ⁱ two lines of thought were considered in this sub-group: - one was cross-sectoral and the other was on the application in forestry. A paper is under way on "Using C&I to Strengthen Results-based Management in the Context of NFPs" (see Ottawa

May 2016 C&I Expert workshop website for a draft) – the suggested focus for the sub-group work is therefore on a more cross-sectoral perspective.
