Towards sustainable forest value chains

Setting the stage for a discussion on Sustainable Wood for a Sustainable World

Thais Linhares Juvenal, FAO headquarters, 31 October 2017
Forests and wood products for the SDGs

- Generation of employment and economic growth
- Wood fuel contributes to food security and enhanced safety nets
- Wood fuel is the most accessible energy in many rural and urban areas
- Wood energy can be a viable low carbon option for many industries
- Wood products store carbon and can be recycled
- Sustainable wood production can increase the value of standing forests
The sustainable wood value chain

• It’s one of the forest value chains: co-exist with the non-wood forest products value chains and environmental services

• Good governance is critical for managing forests for their different values and to ensure social, economic and environmental benefits from sustainable wood value chains

• National / international markets are key to drive value chain sustainability through product differentiation
Wide range of stakeholders are value chain actors:

- Forest owner
- Regulator
- Financier

- Producer
- Forest owner
- User of ecosystem services

- Labor
- Manufacturer
- Service provider

- Government
- Private sector

- Local communities
- Consumer of forest products
- User of ecosystem services

- Global society
- Financier
- Regulator

SUSTAINABLE WOOD for a SUSTAINABLE WORLD
Wide range of wood products

- Charcoal
- Fuelwood
- Land and forest
- Saw logs and veneer logs
- Wood-based panels
- Cellulose fibres
- Wood pulp
- Pulpwood
- Sawn wood
- Railway sleepers
- Electricity
- Packaging
- Paper and paperboard
- Building materials
- Clothing
- Personal hygiene products
- Newsprint
- Steel
- Buildings
- Furnishings
Constraints to expanding production and use of sustainable wood

• Substitution of other products, such as concrete, plastic, and metals due to price, technology, scale and safety standards
• Disorganized value chains, which jeopardize access to finance and development of more efficient channels of commercialization
• Weak governance (and thus investment environment) in many developing countries
• Poor dissemination of information on cost structures and markets preventing proper modelling of the sustainable wood products’ business case
Sustainable Wood for a Sustainable World

- Raise awareness of the availability of sustainable wood products and their wide uses and benefits
- Unblock markets and finance for sustainable wood
- Dispel a perception of wood production as a driver of environmental damage and inequity
- Show how, when and where wood contributes to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development
Thank you!

#woodisgood
#sw4sw