PLANTED FORESTS OF THE FUTURE: Sustainable Management for Biodiversity, Ecosystem Restoration

Planted forests must help foster biodiversity, improve rural livelihoods, and support climate change mitigation if we are to achieve the targets of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and of the United Nations (UN) Decade on Ecosystem Restoration. To make these contributions, planted forests must be established and managed using good practices within a landscape context. FAO is leading the UN’s efforts to provide the technical assistance and monitoring necessary to ensure these principles and practices are implemented.

KEY PRINCIPLES OF SUSTAINABLE PLANTED FORESTS

GOOD GOVERNANCE
Before planting any tree on a planting area, evaluate:
- Includes planting - forest-based strategy - a critical movement for sustainable or degraded forest and non-forested land restoration.

ECOSYSTEM MANAGEMENT
The economic value of a planted forest includes consideration of non-market and ecosystem functions and services. An important part of this approach is ensuring that benefits are shared in an equitable way.

ECONOMICS
Planted forests are a long-term investment. Ensure that the costs of establishment/maintenance do not exceed expected financial benefits. Is the planted forest.

LANDSCAPE
Landscape should include a variety of management regimes and balanced management objectives.

FOREST MANAGEMENT UNIT
Planted forests are managed in forest management units (FMUs) based on the owner’s culture.

GENETIC RESOURCES
The conservation and availability of true genetic resources, both from managed and non-managed landscapes, is crucial for the genetic diversity of planted forest in situ or in plantations and seed banks as ex situ.

KEY APPROACHES TO GOOD PRACTICES IN PLANTED FORESTS

1. Maintain a diversity of species and ecosystem types.

2. Implement complementary forest and non-forest management to ensure that the use of planted forests is sustainable and does not reduce biodiversity.

3. Integrate social, economic, and environmental dimensions, recognizing the cultural, social, and economic values of forests.

4. Take steps to increase production of wood for local and regional markets, supporting local and regional economies.

5. Establish and maintain the proper forest management practices to ensure the health and productivity of planted forests.

6. Ensure that the establishment, maintenance, and utilization of planted forests are economically viable.

7. Establish and maintain the proper forest management practices to ensure the health and productivity of planted forests.

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Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations