



Food and Agriculture Organization
of the United Nations



Global Forest
Observations Initiative

Plenary

Online
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Capacity Building Component: work during the pandemic and way forward

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Current CB work during the pandemic

Silvacarbon

Adapting by developing and deploying technical **e-learning courses** to countries.

Technical assistance and **training online** minimized to one or two hours to keep attention and productivity. The e-learnings are replacing lectures and materials given in person.

South – South cooperation with two countries at a time. These are replacing regional workshops and are more focused on a specific tool or method that one country is using and another country wants to implement.

SilvaCarbon is partnering with others (WB, Amerigeoss, GEO, etc.) to maximize the use of SilvaCarbon learning materials throughout their forums

Continuation of technical assistance by having short calls with technical experts in the US government and academia.

Supporting Academia to work with countries researching better methods for monitoring carbon emissions (example. UMD working with Paraguay to distinguish different types of commodities from remote sensing data)

FAO

Webinars and online training courses intensified (e-learning platform FAO)

Hands-on training sessions with experts on technical questions and issues

Video and publication material to support the trainings which replace the in-country presence and back stopping missions



FAO Remote engagement highlights in GFOI context

Workshop “Standard Operating Procedures: importance for QA/QC in area estimation

- Run three times, in English, French and Spanish, and at different times to best suit a range of time zones.
- Launch of SOP templates, information and experience sharing, and active Q&A sessions
- Presentations from Costa Rica, DRC and Mozambique
- 114 participants, 20% of which were women

CBIT Forest: "Building global capacity to increase transparency in the forest sector (CBIT-Forest)"

Capacity Building Initiative for Transparency (CBIT) trust fund of the Global Environment Facility (GEF)

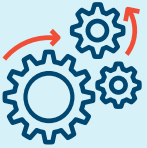
- **Innovative Approaches:** Largest events and materials that were most significant in delivering and implementing transparency capacity-building
- **2 Massive Open Online Course** – innovative training approach not previously used (available in three languages), enabled us to reach 1255 people from more than 120 countries, 38% of which were women, with active engagement over 3-4 weeks of learning
- **E-learning course** – 3 modules on Forests and Transparency, taken by 1 100 participants (41% women)
- **Webinars** – 5 webinars engaging a total of 1772 people (45% women)



Global CBIT highlights



Upgraded FAO Global Forest Resources Assessment (FRA) **reporting and dissemination platform** ([6 UN languages](#)).



Tool developed to facilitate the assessment of **gaps and needs** in a country's NFMS in multiple languages ([info note](#) and [quick guidance](#)) and a brief on legal aspects for NFMS's



Outreach and communication ([Trello Board](#)) **and sharing** of case studies and best practices on transparency in the forest sector (2020: [Costa Rica](#), [Democratic Republic of the Congo](#), [Bangladesh](#); 2021: [Chile](#), [Ghana](#) and [Papua New Guinea](#)).



Knowledge sharing through global webinars ([2020](#), [March](#) and [July 2021](#)) and development of training material, including E-learning course soon in all 6 UN languages, 8 modules on National Forest Monitoring (to be launched in Nov 2021) and 3 editions of the massive open online course on forests and transparency held in English, French and Spanish.



What else should the component be doing?

- **Organization of the GFOI capacity building summit.**

This summit is key to identify country technical needs (these needs change frequently with new requirements and schemes (UNFCCC, LEAF, etc.)), and identify where GFOI CB partners can assist

- **Guidance** to accomplish the requirements to accessing financing or result based payments

Within the component there should be a group of experts on forest financing that can assist when these types of questions arise from the country side

- **Promotion of participation of multiple stakeholders** in countries in capacity building training and efforts
- **Promotion of participation of diverse groups** in capacity building trainings (younger professionals, universities, women)
- **Coordination among GFOI CB** will be more active when we will go back to meeting in person once a year



Operations

- **GFOI regional and national workshops**: important mechanism for CB component

Promotes South-South Collaboration

Promotes collaboration among GFOI donors

Exposes the countries to new research possibilities

- **Coordination with other components**

Coordinating with the Data component of their CEOS effort to make **global datasets more useful for countries**

Coordinating with MGD on needs for guidance from countries.

Coordinate with R&D on research that countries need. CB is the face of GFOI in countries

CB collaborates with the WB in the delivery of training, by using the Open MRV platform, by sharing lessons learned, and by contributing with training materials



Resourcing

Resources:

- *Budget for component managers: in-kind by the host organisations*
- *Budget for implementation of activities (independent budget from SilvaCarbon, FAO, WB and GIZ). All these programs would need to have budget available*
- *Support from GFOI office to coordinate the components*

(For Example the request from a country X that comes to the GFOI office should point out to the appropriate CB program)



Key partners for success

- The US SilvaCarbon programme & FAO (Component Managers)
 - FAO UN-REDD & SEPAL projects (NICFI)
 - The World Bank FCPF and ISFL
 - GIZ
 - SERVIR and other US Government funded projects
 - Space agencies of CEOS (ESA, NASA, JAXA)
 - Other partners who are involved in Capacity Building activities: USAID, METLA, academia as BU, WUR..
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- **Accountable:** GFOI Leads Group
 - **Audience:** Broader GFOI community via the communications programmes and the host organisations (USGS and FAO mainly)



Lessons for the future

- *Way forward: most likely to be hybrid of virtual and in-country support*
- *Huge effort done in e-learning courses has shown to be a very efficient tool to reach a wide audience (even wider than the face to face events allow)*
- *Virtual workshops to be replaced by face to face when necessary*
- *Building trust by in-country presence*
- *Avoiding not essential travels and focusing on the meetings and trainings which need to be held in person*
- *Face to face meetings to cristallize new ideas, projects and partnerships*
- *Better balance work-life for the staff and consultants*



Thank you for your attention!

Please join us in the **CB Component
consultation breakout group** at 15h

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