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## **Enhancing the capacity of countries to mobilize funding for sustainable forest management: the Role of the Global Forest Financing Facilitation Network**

A side event at the XV World Forestry Congress

Organized by the United Nations Forum on Forests Secretariat, DESA

2 May 2022, 12:30 - 2:00 PM | Republic of Korea, Conference Room 327A

### **BACKGROUND**

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The critical role of forests in addressing global environmental and socio-economic challenges was amply highlighted last year through the Glasgow Leaders' Declaration on Forests and Land Use and other initiatives on forests. The Declaration represents another major commitment supported by 141 countries with 91% of the world's forests to halt and reverse forest loss and land degradation by 2030. The Declaration is fully consistent with target 1 of Global Forest Goal 1 of the UN Strategic Plan for Forests 2030 (UNSPF), which focuses on turning the tide on deforestation, and expanding forest cover by 3% worldwide by 2030.

These ambitions cannot be achieved without adequate financial resources for sustainable forest management. Lack of financial resources has been a persistent challenge for many countries, in particular, developing countries. The impacts of the global pandemic of COVID-19 have further exacerbated the availability of financial resources for forests. Accessing traditional and emerging forest financing from public and private sectors also remains a challenge for many developing countries. This is due to several factors, including limited capacity of countries, complex procedures of and requirements by the multilateral funding institutions, and lack of start-up funding among others.

Through the initiative of the United Nations Forum on Forests, the Global Forest Financing Facilitation Network (GFFFN) was established in 2015 by the UN Economic and Social Council to assist countries in mobilizing financing for sustainable forest management and to contribute to the achievements of the Global Forest Goals. Since its establishment, the GFFFN has assisted 34 countries and two sub-regions to design national forest financing strategies and to conceptualize project proposals, including on preserving and expanding forest cover. The GFFFN's Clearing House also provides up-to-date information on forest financing opportunities, learning materials and good practices.

### **OBJECTIVES**

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The objectives of this side event are to:

- a) Identify the challenges in and opportunities for mobilizing financial resources for sustainable forest management at the global, regional, and national levels.
- b) Explore concrete measures that need to be undertaken to increase financial flows to sustainable forest management
- c) Share the work and experiences of the GFFFN, in assisting member states in mobilizing resources for sustainable forest management.

## PROGRAMME

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The discussions during this side event will be conducted in a panel. Following the conclusion of presentation by the panelists, participants will be invited to engage in interactive discussions.

**Moderator:** Peter Gondo, Inter-regional Advisor, UN Forum on Forests Secretariat, DESA

**Opening Remarks:** Juliette Biao, Director, UN Forum on Forests Secretariat, DESA

### Panelists

- **Davia N K Carty**, Senior Director for Strategic & Corporate Planning, Forestry Department, Jamaica,
- **Benjamin Singer**, Senior Forest and Land Use Specialist, Green Climate Fund
- **Allan Traicoff**, Chief Commercial Officer, The LEAF Coalition
- **Pascal Martinez**, Global Environment Facility (GEF) Secretariat
- **Dirk Nemitz**, Team lead, AFOLU Unit, UNFCCC Secretariat

## PARTICIPANTS

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The event will be open to all participants at the World Forestry Congress, including representatives from governments, UN system, international organizations, civil society, private sector, and academia.

## LANGUAGE

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The event will be held in English.

## CONTACT

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For any questions or requests for additional information regarding the side event please contact:  
Yan Lang at: [yan.lang@un.org](mailto:yan.lang@un.org) with copy to Peter Gondo at: [gondop@un.org](mailto:gondop@un.org)

## USEFUL LINKS

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UNFF Clearing House on Forest Financing <https://forest-finance.un.org>

UN Forum on Forests <https://www.un.org/esa/forests>



The **UN Strategic Plan for Forests 2030** (UNSPF) provides a global framework for actions at all levels to sustainably manage all types of forests and trees outside forests, and to halt deforestation and forest degradation. The Plan features a set of six Global Forest Goals and 26 associated targets to be reached by 2030, which are voluntary and universal.