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Продовольственная и  
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организация  
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Organización  
de las  
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para la  
Alimentación y la  
Agricultura

## ASIA-PACIFIC FORESTRY COMMISSION

### TWELFTH MEETING OF THE APFC EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Chiang Mai, Thailand, 12-14 October 2016

### PROGRESS IN IMPLEMENTING APFC AND FAO-SUPPORTED ACTIVITIES IN THE ASIA-PACIFIC REGION

#### I. INTRODUCTION

1. This note reports on progress in implementing APFC- and FAO-supported activities and initiatives since the 26<sup>th</sup> session of the APFC, which was convened in Clark, Philippines, in February 2016. It serves as a basis for reviewing follow-up to the specific requests and recommendations stemming from the Commission.

2. The 26<sup>th</sup> session of the APFC produced 29 recommendations, of which 11 were generated for the attention of governments and FAO and 18 were generated for the attention of FAO. The table below summarizes the progress made and action taken.

#### RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE 26<sup>th</sup> SESSION OF THE APFC AND FOLLOW-UP ACTIONS TAKEN BY FAO

Recommendations	Actions taken
<i>For the attention of governments and FAO</i>	
1. FAO and member countries facilitate the participation of smallholders and small enterprises in trade and markets.	- The FAO Forest Law Enforcement, Governance and Trade (FLEGT) Programme is in the third phase of implementation with funding commitments from the Swedish International Development Agency (Sida), the European Union and FAO totaling approximately 45 million Euros for 2016-2020. In Asia, FAO FLEGT continues to support six Voluntary Partnership Agreement (VPA) countries (Malaysia, Indonesia, Thailand, Myanmar, Lao PDR, and Viet Nam) and two non-VPA countries (Philippines from 2016 and Cambodia from 2017). The FAO FLEGT programme is providing focused support to the private sector, in particular small and medium forest enterprises (SMFEs), which encompass both small-scale timber producers and small businesses engaged in processing and trading forest products. In Asia, FAO FLEGT is supporting private sector federations/associations as well as relevant government agencies and local civil society organizations (CSOs) to facilitate the development of supportive legal and policy frameworks, legal compliance and market access. FAO FLEGT is also supporting SMFE participation in VPA processes, promoting the use of voluntary certification as a tool for FLEGT and sustainable forest

	<p>management (SFM).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- In the Asia-Pacific region, Myanmar, Nepal and Viet Nam are receiving support under the Forest and Farm Facility (FFF). In Nepal, support has been provided to community forestry user groups and a federation of small-scale industries for the establishment of small forest and farm enterprises in two districts and for the initiation of multi-sectoral platforms at the district and national levels. In Myanmar, support is being given to establish township and provincial level Community Forestry Product Organizations in two states and to the Community Forestry National Working Group. In Viet Nam, support to the Viet Nam National Farmers Union is helping producers form marketing groups around cinnamon and timber in two provinces. Finally, the Asia Farmers Association has been holding a series of consultations with forest dependent farmers in the region to identify priority policy issues for advocacy at the national and regional levels.</li> <li>- Under the UN-REDD Viet Nam Phase 2 Programme, FAO has promoted the incorporation of support for small forest owners to improve management of plantation forests, develop smallholder associations, and build capacity for group certification, as a part of the revised National REDD+ Action Programme (NRAP). FAO will use funds set aside under the UN-REDD Programme for the implementation of Provincial REDD+ Action Plans (PRAPs) in two provinces to pilot this support.</li> <li>- New Technical Cooperation Programme (TCP) projects have been approved for Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) Nepal and Viet Nam to enhance agroforestry development including enterprise development and income generation at local level.</li> </ul>
<p>2. Member countries promote and support sustainable use and trade of timber, as well as broader adoption of approaches fostering sustainability and legality of forest products, with particular attention to the needs of small forest enterprises and producers of non-timber forest products.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- FAO FLEGT Programme supports member countries to tackle illegal logging and promote trade in legal timber products. The Programme has provided technical and financial support to the following countries: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><u>Indonesia</u> FAO FLEGT supports Yayasan Biosfera (BIOMA) in the formalization or SVLK (Indonesian Timber Legality Assurance System) certification of timber from village owned forests in two districts of East Kalimantan. Through support to the Indonesian Furniture and Handicraft Industry Association (ASMINDO), the Programme facilitates better understanding of legal requirements relevant to activities and timber sources of SMEs. The Programme also promoted group SVLK certification of small furniture businesses in Java and Bali.</li> <li><u>Malaysia</u> FAO FLEGT supports the Sabah Forestry Department (SFD) build capacity of SMEs to comply with the requirements of the Sabah Timber legality Assurance System (TLAS) and timber supply chain management. The Programme also builds capacity of SFD staff to carry out legality and supply chain verification.</li> <li><u>Viet Nam</u> FAO-FLEGT supports the Research Institute for Sustainable Forest Management (SFMI) in facilitating VNTLAS compliant Forest</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

	<p>Stewardship Council (FSC) and Programme for Endorsement of Forest Certification (PEFC) Group chain of custody (CoC) certification. Groups of SMEs sourcing timber from smallholders will receive training on how to apply due diligence and apply CoC requirements, leading to better market access for their products.</p> <p><u>Myanmar</u> FAO FLEGT supports the Fauna &amp; Flora International (FFI) in promoting commercial timber production by community forestry groups. Pilot activities inform policy and legal reform processes.</p> <p><u>Thailand</u> FAO FLEGT supports RECOFTC to enhance the capacity of CSOs and community forestry networks to engage in the FLEGT VPA process. Participation should contribute to the improvement and development of the policy and legal framework relevant to timber production by smallholders and communities.</p> <p><u>Lao PDR</u> FAO FLEGT supports a local NGO - Rural Research and Development Promoting Knowledge Association (RRDPA) to increase village level awareness about the forestry sector's legal framework and promote community involvement in legal timber production. Experiences from pilot activities will inform VPA negotiations.</p> <p><u>Cambodia</u> FAO FLEGT supports RECOFTC to strengthen the role of community forestry in line with Cambodia's National Forestry Programme's priorities. A national assessment and pilot activities will inform the revision and improvement of the current national Community Forestry Guidelines.</p> <p><u>Philippines</u> With the support of FAO-FLEGT, the Chamber of Furniture Industries of the Philippines (CFIP) and the Philippines Wood Producers Association (PWPA), together with the Department of Trade and Industry and the Forest Management Bureau, have developed a Guidebook on Requirements for Chain of Custody Systems on Timber and Wood Products. A complementary project implemented by the Environment &amp; Livelihood Development Foundation is training local professionals to become auditors and trainers for the industry.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The UN-REDD Viet Nam phase 2 Programme has supported three State Forest Companies (SFCs) to build their capacity to meet international standards for sustainable forest management. These companies have now achieved certification under the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) forest management standard, or are in the process of doing so. Support for the development of a national forest certification standard is incorporated as part of the revised NRAP.</li> </ul>
<p>3. Member countries, with the support of FAO, enhance funding and coordination among agencies and sectors to strengthen actions on climate</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- FAO has commenced work on development of regional support program to assist countries with the implementation of their respective Intended Nationally Determined Contributions (INDCs). A key element of the program will be to enhance member country capacity to implement INDC actions through sources of climate</li> </ul>

<p>change in support of the elaboration and implementation of Nationally Determined Contributions and share results of their efforts during the 27th session of APFC.</p>	<p>finance such as the Global Environment Facility (GEF) and the Green Climate Fund (GCF).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- FAO anticipates it will become an international accredited implementing entity for the GCF at the GCF board meeting in October 2016. In preparation for this change in status, FAO country offices have been consulting with Nationally Designated Authorities and relevant technical agencies in member countries to identify initial projects, consistent with member country INDCs that can be developed into potential GCF projects. FAO is mobilizing additional human resources and financial resources to support this task including program development experts for the forestry sectors.</li> <li>- At the request of the ASEAN Technical Working Group on Agricultural Research and Development (ATWGARD, FAO has supported a process based on its assessment of INDC priorities for member states in ASEAN to develop a common position on agriculture and land-use (including forestry) issues for the 22<sup>nd</sup> Conference of the Parties to the UNFCCC (COP22) in November 2016. The idea of a common position received in principle support from a special session of the Senior Officials Meeting for ASEAN Ministers of Agriculture and Forestry in August 2016. ATWGARD members will approach their respective UNFCCC focal points to determine how ASEAN member states can better coordinate on agriculture and land-use (including forestry) issues at COP22.</li> <li>- Through the UN-REDD Programme, FAO provides support to 19 countries in the Asia-Pacific region in development of Measurement, Reporting and Verification (MRV) approaches for the Land Use, Land Use Change and Forestry (LULUCF) sector, and is exploring the potential to build on this work through the Capacity Building Initiative on Transparency (CBIT) being established under the GEF, to contribute to the MRV of other sectors under countries' NDCs.</li> <li>- FAO has built on its partnership with UN-REDD partner agencies UNDP and UNEP to develop a GCF project proposal for implementing Sri Lanka's National REDD+ Strategy, with UNDP as the accredited entity. FAO is leading on the development of elements relating to National Forest Monitoring Systems (NFMS), Forest Reference Levels (FRLs) and Policies and Measures relating to Sustainable Forest Management and law enforcement. The modality for this inter-agency collaboration may be replicable for GCF projects with a similar focus in other countries.</li> </ul>
<p>4. Member countries strengthen local stakeholder rights (noting that rights need to be defined within national contexts), and enabling investment in local institutions and capacities.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- A GEF-funded project being implemented by FAO in Mongolia "Mainstreaming biodiversity conservation, SFM and carbon sink enhancement into Mongolia's productive forest landscape" is supporting forest user groups to strengthen local stakeholder rights.</li> <li>- FAO is implementing a regional Technical Cooperation Programme (TCP) project on "Strengthening Forest Tenure for Sustaining Livelihoods and Generating Income" to enhance the contribution of forests to the livelihoods and income of forest dependent communities in Cambodia, Nepal and Viet Nam. The project focuses on: 1) strengthening forestland tenure policies as preconditions for better income and livelihoods; and 2) strengthening the institutional capacity at all levels to ensure</li> </ul>

	<p>significant impacts at scale. After the project inception in 2014, the project has been able to achieve a number of milestones in pilot countries, among others:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Six multi-stakeholder national-level policy dialogues were organized involving over 300 participants to discuss forest tenure policies and legislation.</li> <li>• Over 200 people from government and non-government organizations have been trained on forest tenure, governance, livelihoods and conflict resolution through six training of trainers (ToTs).</li> <li>• An exchange visit for key policy makers was organized to Yunnan Province of China mainly to observe the progress of forestland tenure reform at local levels.</li> <li>• A comprehensive assessment of existing regulatory framework and institutional capacity was undertaken and completed. The assessment identified key policy and institutional capacity gaps and recommended specific strategic short- and mid-term action plans to address these gaps.</li> <li>• Project results were shared at the Asia-Pacific Forestry Week 2016. The outcome will also be presented during the forthcoming IUFRO event in October in Bogor, Indonesia and a conference in the U.K.</li> </ul>
<p>5. FAO and member countries continue to implement activities that enhance the roles of key stakeholders including private sector, smallholders, indigenous peoples, communities, civil society organizations and youth in supporting sustainable forest management and forest landscape policies, plans and practices through appropriate policy mechanisms, capacity building and exchange of information and best practices.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- FAO is currently supporting Indonesia through a project titled “Strengthening Forest Management Unit for Sustainable Forest Management and Community Empowerment (TCP/INS/3602) with the main objective to strengthen FMU human resources and empower local communities to obtain full benefits from FMUs through more meaningful engagement in forest management.</li> <li>- FAO FLEGT has supported numerous initiatives to strengthen capacity of all forest sector stakeholders to engage in national governance, policy and legal reform processes. The main focus of FAO FLEGT Programme is on supporting ongoing VPA processes and many grants are promoting multi-stakeholder processes such as the development of voluntary certification or policy and legal review. FAO FLEGT is also engaging in REDD+ readiness processes by promoting FLEGT-related activities as possible responses to drivers of forest degradation and deforestation.</li> <li>- FAO is also involved in many other initiatives that aim to enhance the roles of stakeholders in SFM, including work in mainstreaming gender into forestry, a wide range of national projects with components related to stakeholder engagement, work through the Forest and Landscape Restoration Mechanism, Kids-to-Forests program, etc.</li> </ul>
<p>6. Member countries promote green investment in forests and other natural assets by encouraging dialogue among forest policymakers and financiers in the public and private sectors, with a view to creating an enabling policy</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- FAO is supporting Myanmar, Timor-Leste and Viet Nam to revise their forest policy and laws to respond to new changes and demands.</li> <li>- FAO continues to support countries access GEF funds as one of the GEF agencies. FAO has also started working with member countries to develop priority GCF projects and programs (in anticipation of FAO’s accreditation under GCF in October 2016).</li> <li>- As part of FAO’s work to strengthen financing for SFM, the</li> </ul>

environment for green investment.	publication " <a href="#">Towards effective national forest funds</a> " was released in late 2015 to address the need for more information on the way national forest funds work and how best to establish and manage them.
7. FAO elaborate a regional action plan for forest restoration in Asia and the Pacific, in collaboration with member countries and relevant international partners.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- FAO has developed the draft regional strategy and action plan on forest and landscape restoration through an extensive consultation process. The draft was presented as a side event during the 23<sup>rd</sup> session of the Committee on Forestry (COFO 23) and is currently being finalized.</li> <li>- Forest restoration, as one of the key policies and measures of Sri Lanka's REDD+ Strategy, is a major output under the FAO-supported component of the UNDP-led Sri Lanka GCF proposal on REDD+ implementation, with potential for replication in other countries.</li> </ul>
8. FAO and member countries to promote greater awareness of the benefits of forests through the International Day of Forests.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- FAO organized a forestry debate on the theme of forests and water in Bangkok to celebrate IDF 2016 in collaboration with RECOFTC and United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) to raise awareness of the benefits of forests. Similar activities are planned in for IDF 2017.</li> <li>- In addition, many countries and partners in the Asia-Pacific region organized their own IDF events.</li> </ul>
9. Asia-Pacific Forest Policy Think Tank support the development and strengthening of holistic national forest policies that encompass cross-cutting multi-sectoral issues.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The Ninth Executive Forest Policy Course involving 26 high level government staff, managers and civil society from 13 countries was held in Yogyakarta, Indonesia. Countries involved were: Bangladesh, Bhutan, Fiji, India, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Myanmar, Nepal, Philippines, PNG, Solomon Islands, Thailand, and Viet Nam.</li> </ul>
10. Asia-Pacific Forest Communication Network provide training in communicating forestry issues to the general public.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Asia-Pacific Forest Communication Network, together with RECOFTC, organized an interactive session on improving forest communication during the Asia-Pacific Forestry Week 2016.</li> <li>- The Network remains very active in sharing forestry information via social media and providing tips on communications.</li> </ul>
11. Asia-Pacific Forest Invasive Species Network (APFISN) explore the potential to utilize biomass from invasive species for productive purposes, as one element of the control and management of invasive species.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- FAO has explored the potential to utilize invasive species in the previous TCP project on control and management of forest invasive species in India and Maldives. This topic will be further explored with the APFISN Secretariat.</li> </ul>
<b><i>For the attention of FAO</i></b>	
1. Continue technical assistance to countries to meet the requirements of forestry-related NDCs including building capacities, conducting and analysing national forest inventories, and understanding and meeting the requirements of	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- In partnership with the UN-REDD Programme and other organizations, FAO organized a regional workshop on Understanding Capacity Needs for the Paris Agreement Enhanced Transparency Framework in Agriculture and Land Use sectors in Asia and the Pacific, 27-29 June 2016. The workshop was attended by over 50 representatives from the Ministries of Agriculture, Environment and Forestry in 12 countries. Based on the outcomes of the workshop FAO is assisting countries to prepare proposals to the newly established GEF fund to enhance country capacity for</li> </ul>

the Transparency Framework.	<p>transparency under the Paris Agreement.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- FAO developed a draft paper titled “The Agriculture Sectors in the Intended Nationally Determined Contributions: Analysis” (<a href="http://www.fao.org/3/a-i5687e.pdf">http://www.fao.org/3/a-i5687e.pdf</a>) to present FAO’s analysis of how INDCs account for the agriculture sectors (crops, livestock, fisheries and aquaculture, as well as forestry).</li> <li>- FAO supports the design and piloting of national forest inventories through the UN-REDD Programme in Cambodia, Myanmar and Sri Lanka</li> <li>- At the request of the government of Bhutan, FAO is developing a programme of support for NFI data analysis and FRL development through the World Bank Forest Carbon Partnership Facility (FCPF)</li> <li>- FAO manages projects for NFI design and implementation with USAID support in Bangladesh, EU support in Papua New Guinea and is developing a similar initiative in Myanmar with support from the government of Finland</li> <li>- At the request of the government of India, FAO has initiated a TCP project to review and revise their NFI methodology</li> <li>- The UN-REDD Viet Nam phase 2 programme is supporting the preparation for a new cycle of the National Forest Inventory and Monitoring Programme (NFIMAP).</li> </ul>
2. Future sessions of APFC engaged in UNFF processes, including issues relating to the implementation of the United Nations Forest Instrument and the International Arrangement on Forests beyond 2015.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- FAO is engaged in a discussion with United Nations Forum on Forests (UNFF) to organize a one-day UNFF-related session in conjunction with future sessions of regional forestry commissions, including APFC.</li> </ul>
3. Assist in identifying appropriate forestry indicators for measuring progress toward Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) implementation.	<p>FAO is ‘custodian’ UN agency for 20 indicators (including forestry-related), for SDGs 2, 5, 6, 12, 14 and 15. As a custodian agency, FAO will be responsible for: 1) collecting data from national sources, validating and harmonizing them, estimating regional and global aggregates and making them available for international reporting; 2) contributing to annual SDG progress reports; and 3) establishing partnerships with other international agencies to monitor the increased number of indicators. FAO is working with member countries and the international agencies to harmonize and streamline existing data collection processes to reduce the reporting burden on member countries especially through the Global Forest Resources Assessment (FRA) and FAOSTAT.</p>
4. Continue support for strengthening sustainable forest management systems for climate change mitigation and adaptation.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- As reported throughout this document, FAO is involved in a wide range of work that seek to strengthen sustainable forest management, which would be expected to provide climate change mitigation and adaptation benefits.</li> <li>- Design of many new projects, especially GEF, give much greater consideration to carbon sequestration in forest management options (e.g., longer rotations in forest plantations, restoration, energy substitution, etc.).</li> <li>- A TCP project in Bhutan, “Strengthening the Role of Communities in Climate Change Mitigation through Participatory Forest Management in Bhutan”, promotes SFM through participatory</li> </ul>

	<p>forestry to enhance climate change mitigation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- A GEF project in Sri Lanka, “Promoting Sustainable Biomass Energy Production and Modern Bio-Energy Technologies”, jointly implemented by UNDP and FAO is promoting sustainable production of fuelwood for climate change mitigation benefits.</li> </ul>
5. Provide information on utilization of trees and forests for floodplain management and protection.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- In collaboration with Environmental Science for Social Change (ESSC), FAO organized a workshop on forests and disasters in Southeast Asia in August 2016 in the Philippines. The objectives of the workshop were to: 1) share experiences in relation to the use of trees and forests to mitigate impacts and reduce risks associated with hydro-meteorological; 2) increase technical and coordination capacities in mapping risk areas, designing tree and forest protection systems and preparing readiness and response plans; and 3) obtain country inputs and recommendations for the design of an Asia-Pacific Regional Strategy on Forests and Natural Disasters.</li> <li>- FAO is implementing two projects (one TCP and another funded by USAID) to prevent, stabilize and mitigate the risks of landslides in Nepal.</li> </ul>
6. Provide information and technical support relating to best practices in wildfire responses and transboundary fire management.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- FAO has engaged with other donors to explore potential support to fire management in Indonesia, and a proposal for a study to document lessons learned has been drafted.</li> <li>- In Myanmar, a potential project on landscape fire management is being explored for GEF funding.</li> </ul>
7. Provide technical support for rehabilitation of mangrove areas to help restore and stabilize coastal forest ecosystems, establish biodiversity corridors and assist in mitigating the impacts of tsunamis, typhoons and storm surges.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- In collaboration with the United States Agency for International Development’s Lowering Emissions in Asia’s Forests (USAID LEAF) program, UN-REDD Programme and IUCN, FAO has been implementing the project “<a href="#">Income for Coastal Communities for Mangrove Protection</a>” under the Mangroves for the Future (MFF) initiative. The project covers Pakistan, Thailand and Viet Nam and will be completed by end of 2016.</li> <li>- Through the UN-REDD Viet Nam phase 2 Programme, FAO is directly supporting the expansion of an aquaculture certification initiative based on maintenance of minimum proportions of mangrove areas, also to be included in Viet Nam’s revised NRAP.</li> </ul>
8. Finalize a regional strategy and action plan on forests and natural disasters including giving specific attention to vulnerability mapping.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- In collaboration with ESSC, FAO is engaged in ongoing formulation of the Asia-Pacific Regional Strategy on Forests and Natural Disasters. A workshop was organized in August 2016 in the Philippines to obtain country inputs and recommendations for the design of the regional strategy.</li> </ul>
9. Explore modalities for supporting integration of community forestry producers and smallholders into market and trading systems for forest products.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- FAO FLEGT has supported countries in negotiating VPAs with the European Union (EU) to ensure that smallholders, SME and community forestry producers are not left out of VPA negotiation processes and that they will not be marginalized through TLAS implementation. FAO FLEGT supports efforts to strengthen engagement and representation of community forest networks in VPA negotiations (Thailand, Myanmar) and supports projects that facilitate commercial timber production by communities and smallholders.</li> <li>- FFF is engaged in a number of initiatives in Myanmar, Nepal and Viet Nam to support the integration of community forestry producers and smallholders into market and trading systems for</li> </ul>

	<p>forest products.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The UN-REDD Viet Nam phase 2 programme has proposed, through FAO advisory services, the integration of support for smallholder owners of plantations and natural forests to access markets for certified forest products into the revised NRAP.</li> </ul>
10. Support sharing of experiences and lessons for community forestry from regions beyond Asia and the Pacific.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- FAO organized an exchange visit for government officials of Cambodia, Nepal and Viet Nam to China to learn about forest tenure reforms and participatory forestry in June 2016.</li> <li>- FAO publication "<a href="#">Forty years of community-based forestry: A review of its extent and effectiveness</a>" released in early 2016 reviewed and documented lessons learned over the past 40 years of experience in community-based forestry.</li> </ul>
11. Continue to provide technical support for forest landscape restoration including restoring ecosystem services and enhancing biodiversity conservation.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- FAO has been engaged in a number of activities related to provision of technical support for forest and landscape restoration. These include: 1) ongoing support to Cambodia, DPRK and Philippines under the Forest and Landscape Restoration Mechanism; 2) regional TCP project on forest and landscape restoration covering Cambodia, Lao PDR, Indonesia and Philippines; 3) collaboration with the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), Secretariat on capacity building in forest restoration; and 4) the development of regional strategy and action plan on forest and landscape restoration.</li> </ul>
12. Strengthen capacity for national and local forest inventories, including measurement, reporting and verification in support of REDD+ programmes.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- FAO provides support to the development of National Forest Monitoring Systems (NFMS) through the UN-REDD programme in Bangladesh, Bhutan, Cambodia, Fiji, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Mongolia, Myanmar, Nepal, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, the Philippines, Solomon Islands, Sri Lanka, Vanuatu and Viet Nam, through the development and dissemination of normative guidance documents and capacity building events.</li> <li>- FAO and UN-REDD have also been supporting work through the <a href="#">SPC Pacific Region Forest Inventory Facility</a>.</li> <li>- In Bangladesh and Papua New Guinea, projects to strengthen and implement national forest inventory (NFI) are being implemented, funded by USAID and EU, respectively. In India and Myanmar, there are ongoing TCP projects on strengthening NFMS.</li> </ul>
13. Support assessment of bamboo, rattan and other non-timber forest resources in the Global Forest Resources Assessment and other relevant reporting processes.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- It is anticipated that FAO FRA will coordinate with and support the International Network for Bamboo and Rattan (INBAR) in this effort.</li> </ul>
14. Continue, in partnership with other relevant organizations, support for a broad range of activities to build REDD+ readiness including compiling a publication on experiences and lessons learned from the wide variety of REDD+ activities being implemented in the region.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Through the UN-REDD programme, FAO works in the context of the 'One UN' approach with United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and UNEP to support countries across the world in their efforts towards REDD+ Readiness. In Asia and the Pacific, the programme works in Bangladesh, Bhutan, Cambodia, Fiji, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Mongolia, Myanmar, Nepal, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, the Philippines, Solomon Islands, Sri Lanka, Vanuatu and Viet Nam</li> <li>- FAO's main contribution to the UN-REDD Programme in the region is the development of NFMS and Forest Reference Levels</li> </ul>

	<p>(FRL), two of the four key elements that countries need to develop under an international REDD+ mechanism.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- UN-REDD Programme shares and disseminates guidance documents, tools and various other knowledge products including review of lessons learned on REDD+.</li> <li>- FAO supported Viet Nam in the submission of its FRL to the UNFCCC in January 2016, and the assessment process through the subsequent year, is currently supporting Cambodia, Nepal, PNG and Sri Lanka in the preparation of their submissions for January 2017 and has initiated support for FRL development to several other countries in the region.</li> <li>- FAO has supported the development of a sub-national REDD+ action planning (SRAP) process through pilots in Nepal and Viet Nam, identifying targeted interventions, policies and measures, which has led to these processes being mainstreamed into the national REDD+ strategy development and implementation approach in both countries, and has informed similar processes in Bhutan, India and Sri Lanka.</li> <li>- FAO has developed geo-portals for transparent sharing of information on forest cover and land use change, and monitoring of implementation and impact of REDD+ strategies, policies and measures, in PNG, Sri Lanka and Viet Nam, and is in the process of developing similar facilities in Bangladesh, Mongolia and Myanmar.</li> <li>- FAO has conducted analyses of the institutional, policy and regulatory context pertaining to REDD+ implementation in Nepal and Pakistan, and produced reports containing recommendations on the institutional development and policy, legal and regulatory (PLR) environment necessary for successful implementation of REDD+ strategies</li> <li>- Through the UN-REDD Viet Nam phase 2 programme FAO has conducted a review of the current forest land allocation (FLA) practices in six provinces, in parallel with the regional TCP project on forest tenure, and incorporated the study's recommendations into the revised NRAP.</li> </ul>
<p>15. Convene a cross-sectoral workshop to share and explore perspectives on green investment and other public-private partnerships.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- No steps have been taken to plan for a specific workshop focusing on green investment and public-private partnerships.</li> </ul>
<p>16. Assist member countries in accessing funds for forest restoration through the Global Environment Facility, Green Climate Fund and similar avenues.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- FAO has been working with a number of countries to develop and implement a number of GEF projects with restoration components.</li> <li>- Forest restoration is one of the main policies and/or measures (PAMs) under the FAO-supported component of the UNDP-led Sri Lanka GCF project on REDD+ strategy implementation currently under development.</li> <li>- In anticipation of accreditation under the GCF in October 2016, FAO has mobilized resources to start working with member countries to develop priority projects and programs. Several concept notes have been prepared some of which includes restoration related components. FAO can support country proposals</li> </ul>

	for forest restoration initiatives as requested.
17. Provide technical support to forest restoration activities in Asia and the Pacific, including through the Forest and Landscape Restoration Mechanism.	- Please refer to recommendation no. 11 for the attention of FAO.
18. Continue support for innovative youth programmes such as Kids-to-Forests.	- The Kids-to-Forests (K2F) program is currently most active in the Philippines where significant progress have been made to integrate K2F activities into formal education curriculum in two regions. K2F “Earth Ambassador” have made impressive impacts in public fora, media and community appearances. Core K2F activities educating youths on the importance and relevance of SFM and benefits from forests continue.