

26th Session of the Committee on Forestry

Item 4. State of the World's Forests 2022: Forest pathways for green recovery and building inclusive, resilient and sustainable economies

The document COFO/2022/2 Rev.1 outlines the key findings of the 2022 edition of the *State of the World's Forests (SOFO 2022): Forest pathways for green recovery and building inclusive, resilient and sustainable economies*. The report explores the potential of three forest pathways for achieving green recovery and tackling multidimensional planetary crises, including climate change and biodiversity loss.

The three interrelated pathways are:

- (i) halting deforestation and maintaining forests;
- (ii) restoring degraded lands and expanding agroforestry and;
- (iii) sustainably using forests and building green value chains.

The balanced, simultaneous pursuit of these pathways can generate sustainable economic and social benefits for countries and their rural communities, help sustainably meet increasing global demand for materials, and address environmental challenges.

SOFO 2022 reviews data and presents evidence on the feasibility and value of these pathways and outlines initial steps that could be taken to scale up their implementation.

The Committee is invited to:

- take note of the key findings of SOFO 2022 and invite Members to ensure the critical role of forests and trees and the transformative potential of forest pathways is fully taken into consideration and adequately reflected in international fora on environment, agrifood systems transformation and development and at national level as appropriate;

The Committee may wish to recommend FAO to:

- engage in a dialogue with Members and partners on forest pathways as a means for simultaneously achieving economic and environmental goals and support Members, upon request, in their efforts to integrate these as part of wider agrifood systems transformation policies and programmes towards achieving the SDGs and related international commitments;
- support Members, upon request, in their efforts in scaling up investments and actions to implement the three forest pathways, embracing good practices and innovations in a “no-one-size-fits-all” approach, including through capacity development, strategic partnerships, inclusive approaches, and support to improved access to financing;
- continue to support Members' efforts, upon request, to empower and incentivize local stakeholders, in particular small-scale producers and related producer organizations, women, youth, Indigenous Peoples, local and marginalized communities, to take a leading role in scaling up action on the ground on forest pathways, building more resilient local economies and societies.

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