



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations

FAO's Corporate Climate Change Strategy and the Role of Forests

COFO 2016 Agenda Item 6.1

COFO 23 / WORLD FOREST WEEK

Key objectives of the FAO CC Strategy

- Response to the Evaluation of FAO's contribution to Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation (Oct 2015);
- Alignment with global development expectations (Paris Agreement, SDGs);
- Response to Member Countries' requests for support in CCAM;
- Focus FAO's work on its comparative advantages in CCAM.

Outcomes of FAO CC Strategy

1

• **Enhanced capacities of Member Countries on climate change through FAO leadership as a provider of technical knowledge and expertise.**

→ Guided by national priorities, support Member Countries in addressing the climate challenge by mobilizing FAO's core functions (norms and standard-setting, data and information, policy dialogue, capacity development, knowledge and technologies, partnerships, and advocacy and communication) and support access to Climate Finance..

2

• **Improved integration of food security, agriculture, forestry and fisheries considerations in international governance on climate change through reinforced FAO engagement.**

→ Increase FAO's engagement in international fora to promote the perspectives of food and agricultural systems, mobilize Climate Finance.

3

• **Strengthened coordination, learning and delivery of FAO's work on climate change.**

→ Poise FAO, in particular in FAO decentralized offices, to deliver support at country and international level.

Implementation of FAO CC Strategy

- The Strategy is cross cutting across all food and agricultural sectors.
- It is inclusive across FAO departments, Decentralized Offices and SPs.
- Accessing Climate Finance will be vital to effective delivery of the Strategy at Country level.
- An Action plan will complement the Strategy and specify how FAO will organize to deliver its outcomes.
- The implementation of the Strategy will be fully harmonized with FAO's regular work planning, monitoring and evaluation.

Points for consideration on FAO CC Strategy

The Committee is invited to provide guidance on:

- Whether the descriptions of the outcome areas identified in the FAO Strategy are consistent with the technical priorities within the mandate of COFO in the context of FAO's Vision and Goals;
- The suitability of the Strategy as a prospect to guide FAO technical expertise and deliver at global and country level.

FAO's Role in Forests and Climate Change

Context:

- Forests will be critical for the implementation of the Paris Agreement and NDCs: 111 INDCs include forestry and land use mitigation actions, and many include adaptation.
- The PA encourages countries to implement REDD+ and undertake joint mitigation and adaptation approaches, recognizing non-carbon benefits.
- The PA calls for increased action in adaptation – enhancing adaptive capacity, strengthening resilience and reducing vulnerability to climate change.

FAO's Role in Forests and Climate Change

FAO's key activities:

- Providing REDD+ support in over 50 countries, including for National Forest Monitoring Systems, Forest Reference Levels.
- Strengthening technical capacity and governance frameworks for SFM to underpin CC adaptation and mitigation efforts.
- Developing tools: a portal for forest-related vulnerability assessments, technical guidelines for the agricultural sectors in NAPS, updated Climate Smart Agriculture Sourcebook.

Points for consideration on FAO's CC work

The Committee may wish to invite countries to:

- Strengthen institutional frameworks for sound forestry and cross-sectoral approaches to climate change and incorporating forests into NDCs and NAPs
- Consider coordinating climate change, biodiversity and forestry activities to contribute to food security, livelihoods, climate change responses and biodiversity
- Consider at 40th session of FAO Conference (July 2017) decisions of UNFCCC COP22 and CBD COP13 (Dec 2016)

Points for consideration on FAO's CC work

The Committee may wish to request FAO to increase assistance to countries to:

- Develop forest governance frameworks to contribute to the PA, to the SDGs and to efforts to halt deforestation by 2030
- Integrate forestry into national development frameworks for CC, and develop cross-sectoral approaches, including CSA
- Complete their REDD+ readiness phase and implement REDD+ programmes, including moving toward results-based payments
- Build adequate monitoring, reporting and verification systems

Request FAO to:

- Continue facilitating dialogue and information exchange among different sectors at national, regional and international levels.