

The UN Forum on Forests: Recent Developments & Future Communication Opportunities

**15th Meeting of the FAO-ECE
Forest Communicators Network**

10 October 2007, Bled, Slovenia

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Recent developments



UNFF7 (April 2007)

- Non-legally Binding Instrument on all types of forests (NLBI)
- Multi-year programme of work ('07-'15)
- Ad Hoc Expert Group on a Finance Mechanism

General Assembly (December 2006)

- International Year of Forests 2011

UNFF6 (April 2006)

- 4 Global Objectives on Forests
- 3 new principal functions (1 on regional focus)



NLBI - Purpose

- To strengthen political commitment and action - to implement SFM and achieve 4 GOFs;
- To enhance contribution of forests in achieving the IADGs, including MDGs. (Role of forests in poverty eradication & environmental sustainability);
- To provide a framework for national action and international cooperation.



NLBI - Key thematic areas



- Development of NFPs or equivalent strategies
- Cross-sectoral policy & programme coordination
- Governance
- Forest law enforcement
- International trade in forest products
- **Stakeholder participation**
- Strengthening science and research
- **Public awareness and education**
- Means of implementation, in particular finance
- Better integration of priorities and programmes of CPF institutions
- Criteria and indicators for SFM
- Monitoring and Assessment and Voluntary Reporting of progress of NLBI



NLBI - Added Value



- platform for coordinating forest-related agreements & processes
- reflects international commitment to promote implementation of SFM through a new, more holistic approach
- provides greater connection between action at country level and 4 GOFs
- strengthens the principle of SFM as basic tenet of sustainable development
- reinforces recognition of need for financial resources for implementation of international forest policy



MYPOW

All UNFF sessions until 2015 will address:

- Progress in achieving the 4 GOFs
- Progress in implementing the NLBI
- Cross-cutting: Means of implementation and FLEG in context of themes.
- Other common agenda Items: Regional Inputs, Multi-stakeholder dialogue, enhanced cooperation and inputs from CPF.





UNFF timeline at a glance



- **UNFF8 (2009)** Forests & Environment + Means of Implementation
 - Funding mechanism
- **UNFF9 (2011)** Forests for People
 - International Year of Forests
 - High-level Ministerial Segment
- **UNFF10 (2013)** Forests & Economic development
- **UNFF11 (2015)** Review year & the way forward
 - High-level Ministerial Segment



Regional aspect

- Regional and subregional inputs – common agenda items at each session
- Dialogue on regional priorities – interactive panels at each session
- Exchange of national and regional experiences, sharing best practices and lessons learned
- To participate at the High-Level Segments in 2011 & 2015
- To form partnerships to develop synergies and joint activities



UNFFS Communication Objectives



- promoting awareness by providing clear and consistent messages
- engaging key stakeholders and organizations
- building media interest in Forum activities and forests issues
- beginning a campaign towards 2011 - the International Year of Forests



Int'l Year of Forests 2011



A communications & outreach campaign - to share information and galvanize public action towards SFM.

“raising awareness at all levels to strengthen the sustainable management, conservation and sustainable development of all types of forests for the benefit of current and future generations”



Communication Opportunities



- **2009** (UNFF8) – possible hook: Climate change + finance
- **2011** (UNFF9) – possible hook: Indigenous Peoples+ International Year + Ministerial Segment
- **2013** (UNFF10) – possible hook: Economic development/ trade
- **2015** (UNFF11) – possible hook: Ministerial Segment



Thank you!

UN Forum on Forests
www.un.org/esa/forests