



CPF

COLLABORATIVE PARTNERSHIP ON FORESTS

CPF Side Event at UNFF20

Joining Forces for Forests:

CPF Joint Action to Advance Global Forest Goals

7 May 2025, 1:15-2:30 pm EDT

Conference Room 7, UN Headquarters, New York

[Livestreamed on UN WEBTV](#)

I. Background

As part of the International Arrangement on Forests (IAF), the Collaborative Partnership on Forests (CPF) is a voluntary interagency partnership of 16 leading international organizations and plays a key role in advancing the implementation of the United Nations Strategic Plan for Forests 2030 (UNSPF) and the achievement of the Global Forest Goals (GFGs). Through coordinated actions, joint initiatives, and knowledge sharing, CPF strengthens cooperation among international forest-related organizations to maximize their collective impact.

CPF is currently implementing 12 enabling and thematic Joint Initiatives (JIs) to support Member States in key areas, including forest policies, policy coherence, emerging issues, science-based decision-making, resource monitoring, reporting, education and financial flows in alignment with the GFGs¹. Formulated to address dynamic and complex challenges, these JIs rely on continuous coordination, adaptability and innovation to meet the demands of a changing policy landscape.

The UNFF19 Omnibus Resolution and the High-level Segment Declaration contain numerous provisions regarding the work of the CPF and its member organizations. These signify the critical importance of the work of the CPF and its members in making progress towards achievement of the objectives of the IAF. To further strengthen the Partnership, several invitations in the UNFF19 omnibus resolution are addressed to the governing bodies of the CPF member organizations, including to strengthen collaboration and support to the work of the CPF, and integrate the UNSPF and the GFGs into the plans and operational programmes of work of the CPF members.

The thematic priorities for the twentieth and twenty-first sessions of the UNFF (UNFF20 and 21) are GFGs 1, 3 and 5²³, and provide opportunities for the CPF to focus its support to their accelerated progress. Global Forest Goal 1 aims to reverse forest loss through sustainable forest management.

¹ Information on the CPF Joint Initiatives is contained in E/CN.18/2025/3 and the CPF Work Plan 2025-2028, and also available on the [CPF website](#).

² GFG1: Reverse the loss of forest cover worldwide through sustainable forest management, including protection, restoration, afforestation and reforestation, and increase efforts to prevent forest degradation and contribute to the global effort of addressing climate change; GFG3: Increase significantly the area of protected forests worldwide and other areas of sustainably managed forests, as well as the proportion of forest products from sustainably managed forests; GFG5: Promote governance frameworks to implement sustainable forest management, including through the United Nations forest instrument, and enhance the contribution of forests to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

³ Policy Brief on the thematic priorities for UNFF20 is available on the [UNFF20 webpage](#).



This goal has been echoed by global initiatives and governments with commitments to end deforestation and restore forests. At UNFF19, Member States expressed serious concern about ongoing deforestation and its links to climate change, land degradation, and biodiversity loss, while also recognizing national efforts to combat these issues⁴.

Countries have made some progress toward Global Forest Goal 3, with protected forest areas increasing from 17% to 18% between 2010 and 2020⁵. However, progress varies by region, and many countries report challenges such as limited resources and skilled staff, which hinder their ability to enforce and implement forest laws effectively.

On GFG5, countries report that forest issues are increasingly included in development and poverty reduction strategies, and their role in sustainable development is gaining recognition. However, it's unclear if these efforts fully integrate forests into land-use planning, as forests are often undervalued, the forestry sector is minimized, and other priorities like food, energy, and social issues tend to take precedence.

This side event will highlight concrete actions taken by the CPF in support of GFGs 1, 3, and 5 through its Joint Initiatives. The side event will bring together representatives from UNFF Members and CPF member organizations, offering a platform for exchange and partnership-building.

II. Objectives and modalities of the event

The main objectives of the event are to provide an opportunity for dialogue and exchange with the UNFF Members, in particular to discuss and showcase how CPF collaborative actions contribute to the advancement of GFG1 (Reversing forest loss and degradation), GFG3 (Increasing area of protected forests and proportion of forest products from sustainably managed forests), and GFG5 (Promoting governance frameworks for sustainable forest management).

The Member State speakers of the event will address the following guiding questions:

- How could the CPF enhance coherence, collaboration and synergies, including through its Joint Initiatives, to support Member States and accelerate progress towards the achievement of the Global Forest Goals by 2030?
- What are your country's next steps to strengthen collaboration and support to the work of the CPF to address pressing global challenges on forests?

The event will be held in person in Conference Room 7, UNHQ, New York, and conducted in English with no simultaneous interpretation. The meeting will be open to all UNFF20 participants.

III. Event programme and speakers

Moderator:

- Ms. Juliette Biao, UNFFS Director

1. Opening remarks:

- Mr. Zhimin Wu, Chair of the CPF / Director of FAO Forestry Division

2. Remarks by Member States:

⁴ ECOSOC resolution 2024/42

⁵ [Global Forest Resources Assessment 2020](#)



- Mr. Garo Batmanian, Director General, Brazilian Forest Service, **Brazil**
- Ms. Elfriede Anna Moser, Director General- Forestry and Regions, Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, Climate and Environmental Protection, Regions and Water Management of **Austria**
- Mr. Boris Greguška, Chief State Counsellor, Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development of **Slovakia**
- Representative of **Indonesia** (tbc)

3. Interactive/Facilitated Discussion with CPF Members

After the interventions of the Member States, CPF heads of agencies and representatives of CPF organizations will have the opportunity to participate and contribute to the interactive/facilitated dialogue, including by providing responses to Member State reflections and the following guiding questions:

- How is your organization implementing/supporting collaborative solutions through the CPF to achieve GFGs 1, 3 and 5?
- How are the UNSPF and GFGs 1, 3 and 5 integrated into the plans and operational programmes of work of your agency/organization?

CPF heads of agencies and representatives:

- Ms. Ivonne Higuero, CITES Secretary-General
- Ms. Daniela Kleinschmit, IUFRO President
- Ms. Sheam Satkuru, ITTO Executive Director
- Mr. Chetan Kumar, IUCN Global Head on Forest and Grasslands
- Mr. Tuukka Castren, Senior Forestry Specialist / Acting Manager of the Global Environment Department, World Bank
- Mr. Dirk Nemitz, Team Lead of the Agriculture, Forestry, and Other Land Uses Unit, UNFCCC Secretariat
- Mr. Tim Scott, Senior Technical Advisor, UNDP
- Mr. Pascal Martinez, Forests and Wildlife Thematic Lead, GEF Secretariat
- Ms. Jamal Annagylyjova, Forest Biodiversity and Ecosystem Restoration Officer, CBD Secretariat
- Mr. Sasha Alexander, Policy Officer, UNCCD Secretariat
- Mr. Benjamin Ross, Forestry Officer, FAO

4. Interactive discussion with event participants

5. Closing remarks:

- Mr. Abderrahim Houmy, Vice Chair of the UNFF 20/21 Bureau / Director General of the National Agency for Water and Forests, Morocco

Contacts

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