

Country: Israel
Date of submission: December 2012

National Report to the Tenth Session of the United Nations Forum on Forests

INTRODUCTORY NOTE

This streamlined reporting format is prepared in response to the request made in the Resolution on Forests for People, adopted at the ninth session of the Forum in February 2011¹. Accordingly, the Forum requested the UNFF Secretariat (UNFFS) to develop a streamlined reporting format, in consultation with other members of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests (CPF), to ensure simple voluntary national reporting for UNFF 10 focused on the implementation of the non-legally binding instrument on all types of forests, (hereinafter referred to as the forest instrument)² and a balanced reporting of all its four Global Objectives on Forests (GOFs).

The streamlined reporting format is the result of consultations with the members of the CPF Task Force on Streamlining Forest-Related Reporting. In addition, UNFFS and FAO consulted extensively with government representatives and international experts on this reporting format and its content. These consultations were conducted through five regional capacity-building workshops³ with the participation of UNFF and FRA national focal points. A total of 136 national and international experts from 78 countries and up to five international organizations participated in the workshops. The workshops also benefitted from the four on-going FAO pilot projects in Ghana, Liberia, Nicaragua and the Philippines on the implementation of the forest instrument.

The reporting format is intended to complement ongoing reporting by other processes and focuses on identifying critical

General information

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PART I: The Non-Legally Binding Instrument on All Types of Forests (forest instrument)⁵

<p>Thematic Clusters of the Forest Instrument</p>	<p>The forest instrument has been grouped into five cross-cutting and eight thematic clusters for easy reference⁶:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1A: Strengthening political commitment for sustainable forest management 1B: Financing sustainable forest management 1C: Capacity building and technology transfer 1D: Stakeholder participation 1E: Enhanced international cooperation 2A: Forest law enforcement and governance 2B: International Trade in forest products 2C: Protection of forests 2D: Science and research 2E: Public awareness and education 2F: Private sector and industry 2G: Indigenous and local communities 2H: Monitoring, assessment and reporting <p>Data provided on thematic clusters of the forest instrument will also be used for assessing progress toward its Global Objectives on Forests (Qs 33-49).</p>
<p>1A: Strengthening political commitment to sustainable forest management</p>	
<p>1. Existence of Forest policy statement with national scope; data will be derived by UNFFS from FRA database⁷ (T14 – Policy and legal framework)</p>	

been introduced to control grazing and ensure effective water management. Due to these activities, Israel is one of the few countries in the world that has more trees now than it had a century ago.

After the first pioneering stage of afforestation in Israel, which was initiated at the beginning of the 20th century, the Israeli Forest Service, Keren Kayemeth LeIsrael (KKL), launched a policy that encouraged the adoption of sustainable forest management practices for planted forests.

In 1995, the Israeli Government ratified a new National Master Plan for Forests and Forestry (NMP 22). Approval of this plan

8. Is your country engaged in SFM-related technology transfer?	Yes	No
	X	
If yes, is your country a donor or recipient of SFM technology?		
Donor country	X	
Recipient country		

Describe the nature, source and target of technology transfer (maximum 250 words).

Over the years, KKL has actively cooperated with many countries and international organizations on a wide range of projects.

KKL is at the forefront of technology in the following areas:

- Managing open areas and forests in semi-arid and arid regions
- Combating desertification
- Developing and implementing advanced methods for harvesting water runoff
- River and stream rehabilitation and water purification through wetlands and biofilters
- Land conservation through sustainable agriculture
- Research into and application of biological pest control techniques.

KKL shares and exports its knowledge and experience all over the world, and has participated in or sponsored numerous international conferences and

workshops. Recent activities include a project with young adults in Rwanda, where KKL established a nursery and training programme that includes greenhouses and beehives for honey production. Other projects include helping India, Thailand, South Africa and other countries cope with serious infestation problems in large eucalyptus plantations by means of biological control, and sharing knowledge and experience with the Palestinian Authority in afforestation, forest management and firefighting.

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expanded KKL jurisdiction to areas beyond those of the planted forests, giving a statutory status to around 8 per cent of Israel's land.

The plan affects 160,000 hectares (ha) of existing and proposed forestlands, covering approximately 7.3 per cent of Israel's total land surface which is 22,000 km². Five categories of forest type were assigned by the plan as follows: planted forest (65,900 ha, 41 per cent); natural forest (60,000 ha, 37 per cent); park forest (26,600 ha, 17 per cent); coastal park forest (4,200 ha, 3 per cent); and riparian plantings (3,900 ha, 2 per cent). Detailed forest plans were made to more than 60% of the forests in Israel and were approved by national planning committees. New planting plans are presented for discussion to all stakeholders and interested parties (Ministry of agriculture, Nature and parks authority, Israel ancient authority, farmers, local communities).

1E: Enhanced international cooperation

11. Is your country engaged in international cooperation in sustainable forest management?	Yes	No
If yes, please specify the type of the cooperation:	X	
North-South		
South-South		
Triangular		
Others:	X	

Please give examples, describing the main objectives and elements of the cooperation (maximum 250 words).

International cooperation and capacity-building:

If yes, is your country a donor or recipient of capacity building to address forest-related illegal practices?				
Donor country	X			
Recipient country				
Describe the recent significant steps taken to enhance forest law enforcement and governance in your country (maximum 250 words). Recently, the fifth amendment of forest ordinance was approved by the parliament. The amendment increases the possibilities to enforce the law against illegal tree cuttings.				
2B: International trade in forest products				
16. Is your country involved in international forest products trade? If yes, please provide estimated market value (US\$ 1000):	Yes		No	
	X			
	Import		Export	
	2007	2011	2007	2011
Timber products	485,800	547,100		
Fuelwood				
17. Does your country trade in non-wood forest products? If yes, please list the most important and provide estimated market value:	Yes		No	X
	Import		Export	
	2007	2011	2007	2011

management rights).		
Extent of the country's forests under private ownership (1000 ha)		
Extent of privately-owned forests according to the following categories (1000 ha)		
Individual		
Business entities and institutions		
Local, indigenous and tribal communities		
Describe any significant actions related to Global Objective on Forests 1 (maximum 250 words). Israeli forests, both planted and natural, are multifunctional, ecological landscape systems, which are managed for multiple services to the society and ecology of their surrounding regions. Since the 1980s, planted forestlands have undergone a transformation from pure, even-aged forests to a mosaic of mixed, multiple-use forests, with a greater degree of ecological stability, biological diversity and landscape aesthetic value. This process will expand as more and more stands are renewed and as new lands are added to the nation's forest inventory. In the last two years more than 100 fuel breaks were established around settlements situated in forests.		
Global Objective 2: Enhance forest-based economic, social and environmental benefits, including by improving the livelihoods of forest dependent people		
35. Extent of forest designated and managed for production (1000 ha); data will be derived by UNFFS from FRA database (T.3 - Forest designation and management).	2005	2010
Extent of forest designated and managed for protection (1000 ha)		
Extent of forest designated and managed for conservation (1000 ha)		
Extent of forest designated and managed for social services (1000 ha)		
36. Total volume of industrial roundwood removal (1000 m ³); data will be derived by UNFFS from FRA database (T.11 - Forest Wood removals and value of removals).	2005	2010
Total value of industrial roundwood removal (US\$1000)		
Total volume of fuelwood removal (1000 m ³)		
Total value of fuelwood removal (US\$1000)		
Total value of non-wood forest products (NWFP) (US\$1000)		
37. Has your country established a mechanism(s) for payment of ecosystem services?	Yes	No
		X
If yes, what is the estimated value of the payment of ecosystem services (US\$ 1,000)?	2005	2011
Please describe how the mechanism(s) function (maximum 250 words).		
38. What is the number of visitors to national parks and other protected areas in your country?	2005	2011
39. What is the area of urban parks in your country (1000 ha)?		
40. What is the estimated number of visitors to urban parks in your country?		

Describe any significant actions related to Global Objective on Forests 2 (maximum 250 words)

Community forests

There is a growing need for urban forests and woodland around built-up areas in Israel. More than 91 per cent of the population in Israel resides in urban areas. Immigration to Israel, especially in the 1990s, has contrib

area of 450 hectares. The forest has become the city's main site of nature excursions and recreation for city residents. In July 2011, there were 16 active community forests in Israel. In the last 10 years, KKL-JNF, , has forged bicycle paths throughout the length and breadth of Israel, for both families and experienced cyclists to enjoy		
Global Objective 3: 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;		
41. Extent of forest designated and managed for sustainable forest management (1000 ha); data will be derived by UNFFS from FRA database (T.3 - Forest designation and management).	2005	2010
Extent of forest with management plans (1000 ha)		
42. Does your country have forests under internationally recognized certification schemes?	Yes	No
		X
If yes, please specify:	Certification Scheme	Area
Describe any significant actions related to Global Objective on Forests 3 (maximum 250 words).		
Global Objective 4: Reverse the decline in official development assistance for sustainable forest management and mobilize significantly increased, new and additional financial resources from all sources for the implementation of sustainable forest management;		
43. Does your country have a government budget specific for forests?	Yes	No
		X
44. What is the total amount of funding in forest management, administration, research and human resource development (US\$ 1,000)?	2007	2011
	23,000	30,000
45. If the funding for forests is spread among other sectors, please specify the main contributors:		
Agriculture		
Energy		
Water		
Climate change		
Nature conservation		
Others; please specify: The budget for forest management originated from JNF-KKL.		
46. Has the country been able to mobilize significantly increased financial resources for the implementation of SFM since 2007? If yes, please specify sources:	Yes	No
	X	
Domestic public funding	2007 (US\$)	2011 (US\$)
Domestic private sector funding	2007 (US\$)	2011 (US\$)
External private sector funding	2007 (US\$)	2011 (US\$)
If there has been no increase, please describe the main challenges in mobilizing funds (maximum 250 words).After the Carmel fire the government mobilized 12,000,000 us\$ for the rehabilitation of the Carmel forest.		
47. Does your country have a National Forests Fund?	Yes	No
		X
48. Is your country a donor or recipient of ODA for forestry?	Donor	Recipient
	X	
49. If yes, what has been the net ODA received/donated for forestry (US 1000)?	Donor	Recipient

Please list the indicators.		
Please provide a short description how forests contribute to achieving this goal (maximum 200 words).		
Goal 4: Reduce child mortality:		
Does SFM contribute to achieving this goal in your country?	Yes	No

Please provide a short description of case studies and success stories on data collection on the contribution of forests to achieve MDGs that could serve as examples of good practice for other countries (maximum 250 words).