

Date of submission:

Regional and Sub-Regional Inputs to UNFF10

Regional/ Sub-regional Organization:

and include it in your submission, if information is already available in an existing report or document. Otherwise, you may provide the reference or document itself to the UNFF Secretariat, indicating the relevant section.

The size of the report of the Secretary General will be a maximum of 8,500 words (approximately 16 pages). In view of this, the Forum Secretariat suggests no more than five pages of written input. We would be most grateful if you could send your inputs to **unff@un.org**, fax: 917-367-3186) by **30 September 2012**. In light of time constraints and financial limitations, you are kindly asked to prov

B. Progress towards GOFs

1. Please describe actions taken by your organization and/or by other public and private organizations (e.g., government, NGOs, private sector, etc.) in your region/subregion to help achieve the following :

GOF1, "Reverse the loss of forest cover worldwide through sustainable forest management, including protection, restoration, afforestation and reforestation, and increase efforts to prevent forest degradation"

GOF2, "Enhance forest-based economic, social and environmental benefits, including by improving the livelihoods of forest dependent people"

GOF3, "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"

GOF4, "Reverse the decline in ODA for SFM and mobilize significantly increased, new and additional financial resources from all sources for the implementation of SFM"

2. Please provide additional information specific to your region/subregion on progress towards the achievement of the GOFs.

C. Millennium Development Goals (MDGs)

1. Please describe studies or initiatives in your region that capture the contribution of forests to the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the MDGs?
2. What indicators have been, or could be, used to assess the contribution of forests to the MDGs?
3. Please provide additional information specific to your regional/subregional on MDG forest- related work.

Section II: Characteristics of regional and sub-regional cooperation and partnerships

1. Please provide examples of how your region or sub-region is engaged in facilitating cooperation in sustainable forest management? These may include North-South, South-South and Triangular Cooperation; G102(a)12.1957(l)-h

2. What advances has your organization made in such areas of cooperation?

As a wholly voluntary initiative, the Montréal Process has existed for 18 years with continuous membership from all 12 original member countries. During this time it has built significant national and international momentum and significantly influenced the national and international understanding of SFM. It continues to enhance and demonstrate the relevance and value of its criteria and indicators, strengthen capacity to make progress towards SFM, and enhance collaboration and cooperation across the spectrum of SFM activity.

Communication and capacity-building has been a great strength of the Montréal Process since its inception, leading to a number of advances in the areas of cooperation.

- Sharing of experiences and knowledge has enabled the development and application of the Montréal Process C&I framework by all member countries.
- Through the International Model Forest Network (IMFN), Argentina, Canada, Chile, China and Russia are among a number of countries that are collaborating on methods to demonstrate SFM using the Montréal Process C&I. They have found innovative, low-cost and long-term solutions to the challenges facing advocates and practitioners of SFM.
- The participation of Argentina, Chile and Uruguay in the Montréal Process has facilitated communication, consultation and dialogue on global and local forest sustainability among Southern Cone countries. Beginning in June 2009, these member countries played a key role in the FAO Technical Cooperation Programme (TCP) project on "Strengthening the capacities of the Southern Cone countries for monitoring, evaluating and reporting on progress towards SFM through the development, use and implementation of criteria and indicators".
- During the 23rd IUFRO World Congress held in Seoul, Korea in August 2010, the Montréal Process hosted two technical sessions on reporting on sustainability of temperate and boreal forests using criteria and indicators.
- In March 2011, Japan hosted the International Seminar on Challenges of Sustainable Forest Management – Integrating Environmental Social and Economic Values of Forests in Tokyo. This country-led initiative in support of UNFF was co-hosted by Indonesia and co-organized by the Montréal Process, ITTO and FOREST EUROPE.

The Montréal Process has also built linkages with other C&I processes. As a result of the strengthened relationships and goodwill developed at the Victoria workshop (October 2011), the Montréal Process, ITTO, FOREST EUROPE and UN FAO endorsed a joint statement in January 2012 to streamline global forest reporting through enhanced collaboration. The joint statement is a milestone in the global process of developing SFM indicators. It compliments the directions adopted at the 2010 Committee on Forestry (COFO) meeting that countries would seek ways to converge global reporting approaches to reduce the overall reporting burden.

By working together, the Montréal Process, ITTO, FOREST EUROPE and UN FAO, along with the Observatory for the Forests of Central Africa (OFAC) initiative and the UN ECE/FAO Forestry and Timber Section, have developed a new Collaborative Forest Resources Questionnaire (CFRQ) that better aligns global data collection schedules and requirements.

The CFRQ will greatly increase the consistency of global forest data and the efficiency of its collection and dissemination, which will in turn contribute to reducing the reporting burden on countries. Effectively, countries that report to more than one of these bodies can now provide their data once to meet multiple reporting

4. Please describe any joint activity relevant to the Forum's work undertaken with member organizations of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests (CPF)² and/or involving major stakeholders?

The Montréal Process has maintained a relationship with the UN FAO and ITTO for many years, exchanging information. The endorsement by all parties of the joint statement of collaboration (January 2012) has helped to shift that linkage to one of working together collaboratively to solve shared problems, culminating most recently in the new CFRQ.

The Montréal Process, ITTO, FOREST EUROPE and UN FAO are also working with other processes and organizations to streamline global forest reporting. In August 2012, the USA, a member of the Montréal Process, hosted a workshop with the CFRQ partner organizations and the secretariats of UNFF, CBD and UNFCCC. The participants recommended increased interaction with the CPF Task Force on Streamlining Forest Indicators and the Rio Conventions (e.g., CBD and UNFCCC) to highlight the value of the forest indicator expertise and information possessed by the regional and international C&I processes, as well as gain greater insight into emerging issues such as biodiversity and climate change and their impacts on SFM.

5. Please provide additional information specific to your region/subregion on successful cooperation and partnerships, including those with the private sector and other civil society organizations (also known as major groups).

N/A

6. Please list (or, if available, provide link to the relevant webpage) the member countries and organizations with whom you work on sustainable forest management issues.

The Montréal Process includes 12 countries represen