

Survey

**views on contributions of forests to 2017 HLPF theme
and achievement of SDGs 1, 2, 3, 5, 9, 14 and 17**

The 2017 session of the High-

ecosystem conservation including forests need to be addressed concurrently in order to achieve either.

2. Please provide your organization's view on key contributions of forests to the achievement of Goals 1, 2, 3, 5, 9, 14 and 17.

SDG 1 (see above)

SDG 2 Sustainable agriculture, food security and nutrition are at the heart of the topic of sustainably managed and restored forest landscapes. The presence of trees and forest contributes to a more diversified and nutritious diet for communities in the area. Furthermore the presence of trees and forest in or near agricultural lands creates a natural balance that ensures water availability, presence of pollinators, and other key ecosystem services that enable a sustainable production of agriculture.

SDG 3 Forests provide many of the materials and ingredients used to produce several medicine products utilized in modern and traditional medicine, therefore maintaining the supply of these elements is important for the health of millions of people. In addition the very existence of forests provides cultural values and well-being to people who visit and live in or near them.

SDG 5 Gender equality and women's empowerment are fundamental human rights as well as a pre-condition for sustainable development. Forest protection, restoration and sustainable management cannot be achieved at the scale needed without the full involvement of women. Gender equality and women's empowerment in their role with respect to forest management contribute to achieving poverty eradication, food security and resilience, education, amongst other goals.

SDG 17 Forests are ecosystems that bring together all sort of alliances, partnerships and actors around the world from the global to the local level, who are pursuing similar goals of conserving nature and the services forests provide to support human and other life. International funding for forests in recent years shows a stronger commitment from the international community to support government action leading to enhancement of policies, plans and actions to protect, restore, and sustainably manage forests. International funding and partnership for forests also enables initiatives by civil society aimed at capacity building at the local level, knowledge production, awareness campaigns, among others. This includes funding through the GEF, the GCF, the FCPF, FIP, ISFL, among others.

3. Please briefly describe the priorities and challenges to enhance the contributions of forests to the achievement of Goals 1, 2, 3, 5, 9, 14 and 17.

General comment for all SDGs: Although it is clear that healthy and productive forest ecosystems and landscapes is the foundation for the well-being of forest dependent communities and for people who benefit from its products and services around the world, there has been a continuous challenge to make the case for forest conservation, sustainable management and restoration. The connections between forest conservation and poverty reduction are not completely internalized by decision makers and influential industrial sectors, including because the diverse values of forests are not fully and adequately estimated in order to influence decision-making along a more sustainable path.

Forest ecosystems and landscapes should be given a more central role and recognition across the achievement of the SDGs given the positive contributions they make to so many of these global goals.