



Joint Call to Action for Forests towards 2030

New York, 18 September 2023

We, the Member Organizations of the Collaborative Partnership of Forests (CPF),^{i ii} are – individually and collectively – committed to working together within our mandates, and with the Member States of the United Nations and other partners, towards a world in which all forestsⁱⁱⁱ are managed sustainably for the benefit of people and the planet.^{iv}

We are deeply concerned about multiple interlinked global challenges, particularly in developing countries and for the poorest and most vulnerable, as well as their impact on forests,^v including growing risks of wildfires and droughts.

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the UN Strategic Plan for Forests 2017-2030 (UNSPF), including the six Global Forest Goals (GFGs), provide us with an overarching roadmap for delivering on forest-related commitments and unlocking the full potential of the world's forests to contribute to sustainable and resilient agrifood systems, addressing climate change, biodiversity loss, deforestation, desertification, land degradation, and drought and providing other goods and services, through their conservation, restoration and sustainable use.

We also welcome the increased recognition of the importance of forests in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the significant progress made towards better conservation, restoration and sustainable use of the world's forests.

Time is not on our side, however, countries have highlighted the urgent need to fully unfold the potential of forests to contribute to globally agreed goals in, *inter alia*, the Amazon Summit Belem Declaration (August 2023),^{vi} the Chair's Summary of the 18th Session of the United Nations Forum on Forests (May 2023),^{vii} the One Forest Summit Declaration (March 2023),^{viii} the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (CBD COP15, 2022), the Seoul Forest Declaration (XV World Forestry Congress, May 2022), the Glasgow Leaders' Declaration on Forests and Land Use (UNFCCC COP26, 2021),^{ix} and other forest-related commitments.

The 2023 SDG Summit is a critical moment for addressing global forest challenges and planning accelerated actions to achieve the CPF joint vision for forests towards 2030.^{iv} In this context, we, the Member Organizations of the CPF, based on our agencies' distinct mandates and capabilities, and recognizing the cascading crises facing the planet, reaffirm our commitment to urgent and collaborative action.

With this *CPF Joint Call to Action for Forests towards 2030*, we respond to the challenges of scaling up forest action and we will strengthen our shared efforts in four focal areas, to:

Implementation and Action

1. Provide support to strengthen Member States' capacities, policies, and institutions, to achieve the SDGs, the GFGs, and other forest-related global goals and commitments. This includes facilitating cross-sectoral collaboration, supporting improved, coherent policy responses, and further integrating forest actions into relevant development plans and strategies, particularly by supporting the work of the UN Forum on Forests and the International Arrangement on Forests.
2. Help recognize and unlock the full value of forests across global agendas on food security, climate change, biodiversity, land degradation, employment, water, energy, wildfires, sustainable production, bioeconomics and other interconnected sectors.

3. Enhance action at all levels on restoration, afforestation, and the sustainable management and use of forests, making sure that no one is left behind and that women, youth, Indigenous Peoples and local communities are empowered.

Data, Science and Innovation

4. Continue developing and disseminating robust and transparent forest data and scientific knowledge, to enhance informed, evidence-based decision making.
5. Improve accessibility to the latest available research results, data, tools and methodologies, leveraging advanced and innovative technologies to produce high-quality, up-to-date data and information.
6. Support the scaling up of existing solutions and promote innovative and integrated approaches to halting deforestation, solving multiple planetary crises and feeding the world.

Finance for Forests

7. Address the fragmentation of finance for forests and support the mainstreaming of forest finance in development plans at all levels, and facilitate access to finance for activities targeted at halting deforestation and conserving, restoring and sustainably managing forests.
8. Engage actively with the private sector to facilitate the leveraging of private investment for the conservation, restoration and sustainable use of forests.
9. Encourage and assist Member States in increasing public investment for forests and developing innovative green financing mechanisms.

Communication and Awareness-raising

10. Accelerate global advocacy efforts to bring forests into political agendas and discussions on climate change, biodiversity, agriculture, and socio-economic issues and to change perceptions of the challenges and opportunities associated with, *inter alia*, turning the tide on deforestation, wildfires, and forest solutions to the planetary crises.

With our sights clearly set on 2030, we commit to reinforcing action to strengthen efforts at all levels to fully unlock the contributions of forests to sustainable development and achieve our joint vision for forests towards 2030. We will do so in synergy with, and in addition to, the commitments made at the Climate Ambition Summit and the SDG Summit and in anticipation of the Summit of the Future and upcoming negotiations under the Rio Conventions.

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ⁱ ECOSOC resolutions 2000/35 and 2015/33

ⁱⁱ Members of the CPF (www.fao.org/collaborative-partnership-on-forests): Center for International Forestry Research -World Agroforestry (CIFOR-ICRAF), Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES), Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), Global Environment Facility (GEF), Green Climate Fund (GCF), International Tropical Timber Organization (ITTO), International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), International Union of Forest Research Organizations (IUFRO), United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), United Nations Forum on Forests (UNFF), United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), World Bank.

ⁱⁱⁱ Including woodlands and other landscapes defined by trees.

^{iv} CPF Strategic Vision: by 2030, all types of forests and forest landscapes are sustainably managed, their multiple values are fully recognized, the potential of forests and their goods and services is fully unlocked [...] and global forest-related goals, targets and commitments are achieved.

^v SDG Summit draft Declaration, para 25.

^{vi} Declaração Presidencial por ocasião da Cúpula da Amazônia – IV Reunião de Presidentes dos Estados Partes no Tratado de Cooperação Amazônica

^{vii} UNFF Report on the 18th session (13 May 2022 and 8-12 May 2023).

^{viii} Le Plan de Libreville.

^{ix} Glasgow Leaders' Declaration on Forests and Land Use.

Annex

Background

The Collaborative Partnership on Forests (CPF) is an innovative voluntary inter-agency partnership established in 2001 to support the UN Forum on Forests and its Member States, and to enhance cooperation and coordination on forest issues. Through its resolution 2015/33, the UN Economic and Social Council defined the core functions of the CPF as a component of the International Arrangement on Forests. The CPF comprises 16 global international organizations, institutions and secretariats with substantial programmes on forests.

On 18 September 2023, the heads and senior representatives of the CPF member organizations met to commit to reinforcing actions to strengthen global and national efforts aimed at fully unlocking the contributions of forests to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the CPF's joint vision for forests towards 2030 by launching the **CPF Joint Call to Action for Forests towards 2030**.

Convinced that collective action and renewed and enhanced commitment, anchored in international solidarity and effective cooperation are needed, the **CPF Joint Call to Action** is a vehicle to bring much-needed attention to the forefront of achieving the Global Forest Goals and to the contribution of forest conservation, restoration and sustainable use for achieving the SDGs.

This is even more urgent given the global climate crisis, biodiversity loss, wildfires, and the need to support vulnerable people across the globe. The 2023 SDG Summit is a critical moment for taking stock of the progress made, addressing remaining barriers, and accelerating action for achieving the CPF's joint vision for forests by 2030.

The **CPF's Joint Call to Action** outlines how the CPF will scale up its efforts to support the role of forests in achieving the Global Forest Goals and SDGs towards 2030. It is not intended to establish new structures or frameworks. It contains a list of priority areas for action, which is expected to result in more effective and impactful implementation and synergies and lower transaction costs. In this way, the CPF-wide effort will serve as a flagship for the Decade of Action for the SDGs.

