**Food and Agriculture Organization
of the United Nations**

# INCEPTION PHASE REPORT
**FAO/GEF project GCP/GLO/882/CBT:
"Building global capacity to increase
transparency in the forest sector"**

**CBIT**
*forest*

# Contents

# Acknowledgements

## Acronyms

| | |
|---|---|
| AFOLU | agriculture, forestry and other land use |
| BUR | biennial update report |
| CBC | Climate and Environment Division (FAO) |
| CBIT | Capacity-Building Initiative for Transparency |
| CGE | Consultative Group of Experts (UNFCCC) |
| COP | Conference of the Parties |
| DTU | Technical University of Denmark |
| ETF | Enhanced Transparency Framework |
| FAO | Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations |
| FE | final evaluation |
| FECO | Foreign Economic Cooperation Office of China |
| FOA | Forestry Policy and Resources Division (FAO) |
| FRA | Global Forest Resources Assessment |
| GEF | Global Environmental Facility |
| GFOI | Global Forest Observations Initiative |
| ICA | International Consultation and Analysis |
| ICAT | Initiative for Climate Action Transparency |
| IDB | Inter-American Development Bank |
| NDC | nationally determined contribution |
| NFI | national forest inventory |
| NFM | national forest monitoring |
| NFMS | National Forest Monitoring System |
| NSO | National Statistical Office |
| OED | Office of Evaluation (FAO) |
| PCCB | Paris Committee on Capacity-Building |
| PMU | Project Management Unit |
| PSC | Project Steering Committee |
| PSP | Partnership Division (FAO) |
| Q&A | questions and answers |
| SDG | Sustainable Development Goal |
| SEPAL | System for earth observations, data access, processing & analysis for land monitoring |
| ToR | terms of reference |
| UNDP | United Nations Development Programme |
| UNEP | United Nations Environment Programme |
| UNFCCC | United Nations Framework Convention for Climate Change |
| UNREDD | United Nations Programme on Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation |

# 1. Background

The Enhanced Transparency Framework (ETF), an important provision of the 2015 Paris Climate Agreement, aims to increase transparency in reporting action and support for country progress towards addressing climate change. The Global Environment Facility (GEF) has established a trust fund called the Capacity-Building Initiative for Transparency (CBIT)[1] to support implementation of the ETF under the Paris Agreement. FAO and GEF have recently launched a two-year project, "Building global capacity to increase transparency in the forest sector (CBIT-Forest)" (press release).[2]

The objective of the CBIT-Forest project is to strengthen the institutional and technical capacities of developing countries in forest-related data collection, analysis and dissemination to meet the enhanced transparency requirements of the Paris Agreement and contribute the information necessary to track progress made in implementing and achieving their nationally determined contributions (NDCs).

The CBIT-Forest project will implement the following components:

Component 1: Supporting developing countries to strengthen their institutional capacity to exchange knowledge and raise awareness of the importance of forest-related data to respond to the ETF.

Component 2: Supporting developing countries to strengthen their technical capacity on data collection, analysis and dissemination of forest-related data to respond to the ETF.

Component 3: Sharing knowledge and improving coordination to respond to the ETF.

Key deliverables of the project:

- Upgrading FAO's Global Forest Resources Assessment (FRA) reporting platform. Launched in March 2018, the platform has been used to collect data on the status and trends of the world's forest resources. The upgrade will allow for more transparent reporting and easier access to the reported data.
- Developing an e-learning course, "Forests and transparency under the Paris Agreement" for government forestry staff, but with the aim of making the course more broadly available – to universities, the private sector and intergovernmental organizations.
- Organizing subregional and national workshops across Africa, Asia and Latin America and the Caribbean to build country and subregional capacities in forest management, and introduce innovative forestry tools developed by FAO and partners, such as SEPAL[3] and Open Foris.[4]
- Identifying and sharing case studies and best practices on transparency in the forest sector.
- Developing a series of outreach and communication materials to raise awareness of the importance of data collection, analysis and dissemination for transparency in the forest sector.

[1] https://www.thegef.org/project/building-global-capacity-increase-transparency-forest-sector-cbit-forest
[2] http://www.fao.org/news/story/en/item/1245969/icode/
[3] https://sepal.io/
[4] http://www.openforis.org/

The FAO teams will work closely with partners, including the global FRA national correspondent network, Global Forest Observations Initiative (GFOI), United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and CBIT Global Coordination Platform, among others.

The website of the CBIT-Forest project can be found at: http://www.fao.org/in-action/boosting-transparency-forest-data/en/

The project flyer is available in three languages:

- English: http://www.fao.org/3/ca7424en/ca7424en.pdf
- Spanish: http://www.fao.org/3/ca7424es/ca7424es.pdf
- French: http://www.fao.org/3/ca7424fr/ca7424fr.pdf

The following sections present the results of the project inception phase (Section 2), key recommendations from the inception workshop (Section 3), key recommendations from the kick-off meeting with the Project Steering Committee (Section 4) and conclusions (Section 5). During the inception phase, a side event accepted for the GFOI plenary scheduled for 10–12 March was postponed after the summer due to the coronavirus pandemic.

## 2. Project inception phase

A work plan for the inception phase has been prepared and information on the results is given below.

### 2.1 Project Management Unit establishment and organization

Following approval by the GEF Secretariat, a Budget Holder was designated and the oracle code of the project assigned. During the inception phase, the following activities were implemented:

- revise and agree the inception phase work plan;
- draft terms of reference of the PSC;
- run the kick-off PSC meeting (see Section 4 of this report);
- budget and project operational set-up, including Project Management Unit (PMU);
- recruitment of key personnel to render the PMU fully operational.

### 2.2 Alignment and concept note development

In order to ensure the appropriateness of project activities among a plethora of activities, a key component of the inception phase was strategic alignment and concept notes to implement components 1, 2 and 3 of the project. The results included the identification and development of the following:

- concept note and detailed outline of the e-learning course (component 1);
- concept note for the Global Forest Field Observation Repository (component 2);
- method to assess National Forest Monitoring System (NFMS) needs and gaps assessment (component 2);
- criteria to select the case study/best practice (component 3);
- template for case study/best practice (component 3).

## 2.3 Stakeholder engagement and partnerships

During the inception phase, the following stakeholders were informed of collaboration opportunities and engaged in dialogue: UNFCCC, GFOI, IPCC, CBIT coordination platform[5] (UNEP DTU), ICAT, UNDP and UNEP.

Specifically, a first webinar with UNFCCC took place on 26 November 2019, aiming to:

- present the ways in which FAO knowledge and technical expertise on national forest monitoring at global and national levels through the CBIT-Forest project can contribute to ETF requirements;
- identify potential ways in which FAO and UNFCCC can collaborate on global training material development and regional and/or national capacity-building initiatives.

Key items discussed and agreed included:

- coherence for the preparation of the training material on transparency;
- workshops involvement, e.g. sharing concept notes with UNFCCC;
- comments and/or feedback on the training material on transparency;
- follow-up with a mission in January 2020.

A mission to Bonn (Germany) took place on 14–15 January 2020, aiming to follow up the webinar. Key discussion items included:

- benefits of UNFCCC and FAO collaboration on transparency and forest sector;
- emphasis on biennial update report (BUR) and international consultation and analysis (ICA) for developing countries, including the technical analysis processes;
- training material already available and useful for the e-learning that FAO will develop;
- information relating to the Paris Committee on Capacity-Building (PCCB) was also shared.

In addition, regular calls and communication with the GFOI Secretariat started in November 2019. Key discussion items included:

- collaboration through the different activities of the project;
- sharing concept note on e-learning so that GFOI can seek interest from partners.

At the end of March 2020, initial discussions between FAO-UNDP on how CBIT-Forest global products can support the Climate Promise[6] took place to establish the best ways to collaborate in the uptake of global products while ensuring integration into national processes. The Climate Promise aims to support at least 100 countries in enhancing their NDCs during 2020.

## 2.4 Outreach and knowledge management

During the inception phase of the project, the following results were obtained (see report Annex I):

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[5] https://www.cbitplatform.org/
[6] https://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/news-centre/announcements/2019/UNDP_Climate_Promise.html

- global press release, including an outreach plan;
- website developed and implemented;
- flyer published in English, Spanish and French;
- outreach and knowledge management plan for the whole project.

## 2.5 Monitoring and evaluation plan

The monitoring and evaluation plan was validated during the inception phase with minor changes to two activities of the work plan (see Annex II). These mainly concerned defining the development of an e-learning course as part of the global set of knowledge material, and the methodology to carry out capacity-building needs and gap assessment in the NFMS of pilot countries.

An independent final evaluation (FE) will be carried out three months prior to the terminal review meeting of the project partners. The FE will be managed by the FAO Office of Evaluation (OED).

## 2.6 Annual results-based work plan and budget

An annual results-based work plan and budget for the first year was defined and shared with the PSC in its kick-off meeting (see Section 4).

## 2.7 Final inception report

This report gives an overview of all inception phase activities. The final report will be completed and published on the project website**.**

# 3. Summary and key recommendations from the inception workshop

The inception workshop of the CBIT-Forest project held on **19 February 2020** at FAO Headquarters in Rome, with the objectives of:

> introducing the FAO/GEF CBIT-Forest global project;
> presenting and discussing the work plan of the project;
> collecting comments and suggestions for the implementation of project activities.

In preparation for the workshop, a concept note (with background information and agenda), work plan and logical framework were shared with all team leaders of the FAO Forestry Department and its forestry officers based in all regions (list of participants, Annex III).

A WebStory of the inception workshop is available at:
http://www.fao.org/redd/news/detail/en/c/1266115/

The agenda of the inception workshop was as follows:

## Agenda

| Time | Activity | Presenters |
|------|----------|------------|
| 9:00-9:30 | Welcome, brief on the CBIT trust fund under the GEF | Jeff Griffin (FAO/CBC) |
| 9:30-10:00 | Background and introduction to the FAO/GEF CBIT-Forest and alignment with FAO forest monitoring work at global and national levels (with Q&A session) | Julian Fox/Anssi Pekkarinen (FAO/FOA) |
| 10:00-10:30 | Presentation of the work plan of the FAO/GEF CBIT-Forest project (with Q&A session) | Rocío Cóndor (FAO/FOA) |
| Coffee break (20 minutes) | | |
| 10:50-11:10 | Presentation of key deliverables of the project (with Q&A session) | Rocío Cóndor (FAO/FOA) |
| 11:10-11:30 | E-Learning Centre at FAO (with Q&A session) | Cristina Petracchi (FAO/PSP) |

## Summary

Jeff Griffin (FAO/CBC) provided key information relating to the CBIT trust fund under the GEF, including its aim, key considerations and lessons learned. As at 1 February 2020, the GEF Secretariat reported 71 projects: 30 under implementation, 32 concepts approved and 9 concepts under review. Of the 71 projects, five are global and aimed at improving knowledge by coordination and improvement of sector capacity, and one is the CBIT-Forest project. An overview of the FAO CBIT portfolio was presented, including concepts in the pipeline as well as new ones.

Six agencies are participating in the CBIT trust fund: FAO, FECO, IDB, Conversation International, UNEP and UNDP. FAO was highlighted as a key player in CBIT. Mention was made of a new concept that is under discussion, relating to FAO's work on climate change adaptation and focusing on the indicators and data needed to monitor impact and vulnerability.

The presentation by Julian Fox and Anssi Pekkarinen (FAO/FOA) concerned the links between the ongoing work of FAO forest monitoring with the CBIT-Forest project at global and national levels, through the FRA and NFM teams respectively. In addition, key information on CBIT-Forest was presented, including implementation, impact and key international collaboration (UNFCCC, GFOI, etc.).

It was stressed that the CBIT-Forest project will benefit from the existing network of ongoing activities implemented by the NFM and FRA teams. In particular, the project will engage FRA national correspondents from 187 countries and territories. FRA 2020 key findings will be presented by the end of April 2020 and a full report published by the end of June. The discussion emphasized that FRA is considered to be a key service to the **global community**. An explanation of how the CBIT-Forest project will complement ongoing FRA work was requested. – for example, the project will help to ensure new functionalities in the

FRA reporting platform in order to retain institutional memory and documents for future reporting processes.

Rocío Cóndor (FAO/FOA) presented the work plan for 2020 and the activities to be implemented, describing key deliverables of the project such as the upgrade of the FRA reporting platform, the e-learning course, subregional and national workshops across regions, case studies/best practices and outreach and communication material.

Some discussion took place on work with pilot countries for the CBIT-Forest project, as well as the identification of case studies. It was clarified that only after the needs and gaps assessment of the NFMS with the pilot countries would a clear idea of the type of support be defined. In addition, the criteria for selecting best practices and case studies were explained along with ongoing testing with some countries (e.g. Bangladesh, Costa Rica). Finally, Ms. Cóndor presented the outreach and communication efforts of the project.

Cristina Petracchi (FAO/PSP) explained how the FAO E-Learning Centre will contribute with capacity-development activities and knowledge management, including the development of an e-learning course. She also highlighted how countries can benefit from diversified delivery methods and pedagogical models. In addition, the network of UN and development agencies, university and academic institutions, NGOs and the private sector, which are currently following the E-Learning Centre courses, were mentioned. Finally, the E-Learning Centre's digital badge certification system, which verifies the acquisition of competencies and performance levels, was presented.

## Key recommendations

During the inception workshop, a series of specific items was discussed. Below are some of the key recommendations to be taken into account for project implementation:

- Ensure collaboration among global CBIT initiatives. The CBIT global coordination platform contributes to this purpose. All agencies and countries share developments, lessons learnt and participate to regular annual meetings. The fourth workshop on the CBIT Global Coordination Platform will take place in Tokyo.
- Ensure coordination among FAO global projects (CBIT-Forest, CBIT-AFOLU). Projects are different in scope and the needs addressed, but complement each other in aiming to provide countries with a complete package of activities and products that will contribute and/or explore transparency-related requirements over time. Regular meetings between the two global projects have taken place since 2019.
- Need to highlight the contribution of CBIT-Forest to the ongoing work of FRA being a key service to the global community. The development of some visual information that could help understanding of the complementarity was suggested.
- Define how CBIT-Forest project can capture case studies and best practices of transparency in the forest sector. Some participants provided country examples, such as Bangladesh and Uganda. In particular, Uganda might be considered a case to explore, together with the FAO Forest Governance and Economics Team, specifically on the use of data to promote forest investments and sustainable forestry business development.

# 4. Summary and key recommendations from the kick-off PSC meeting

A Project Steering Committee (PSC) has been established for the CBIT-Forest project, chaired by the Budget Holder (Team Leader of FAO National Forest Monitoring Team), co-chaired by the Lead Technical Officer (FAO's FRA Team Leader), a representative of the GFOI Leads Group and a representative of the UNFCCC. The project coordinator will be the Secretary of the PSC (five members in total).

The functions and responsibilities of the PSC are (see terms of reference in Annex IV):

(i) to monitor the progress of the project and the results achieved such as those presented in the six-monthly progress reports;
(ii) to facilitate cooperation between the project and other pertinent projects and programs underway; and
(iii) to monitor the key results of the project to ensure its sustainability, including up-scaling and replication.

The first meeting of the PSC took place virtually on **5 March 2020**, with the following objectives:

> oversight and assurance of technical quality of outputs;
> presentation of annual work plan and budget;
> presentation of activities that will cover the first year of implementation.

Two weeks before the meeting, a concept note was shared with summary information on the project. In addition, just before the meeting the following material was shared: presentation, ToR, budget, logical framework and work plan. All members participated in the kick-off meeting.

The agenda of the meeting was as follows:

## Agenda

| Time | Activity | Presenters |
|------|----------|------------|
| 9:00-9:10 | Introduction and background | Julian Fox (FAO/FOA) |
| 9:10-9:30 | Terms of reference (ToR) of the Project Steering Committee (PSC) | Anssi Pekkarinen (FAO/FOA) |
| 9:30-10:00 | Presentation and discussion of the Annual Work Plan and Budget and activities for the first period of implementation (2020) | Rocío Cóndor (FAO/FOA) |

## Summary

Julian Fox (FAO/FOA) welcomed the participants. He explained that this was the kick-off meeting of the CBIT project, which is building on ongoing FAO work in forest monitoring, then introduced the CBIT-Forest project in more detail. He highlighted the importance of transparent national inventory data and how they are linked to different reporting processes, including FAO's Global Forest Resources

Assessment (FRA). Anssi Pekkarinen (FAO/FOA) explained how the FRA process has evolved and how future improvements will focus on increased transparency, including support for storing detailed metadata. The improvements, together with capacity-development activities, will also contribute to the Enhanced Transparency Framework (ETF) of the Paris Agreement.

Rocío Cóndor (FAO/FOA) summarized the results of the inception phase. The Project Management Unit was established and organized, a concept note developed, stakeholder engagement, outreach and knowledge management initiated, monitoring and evaluation plan drafted and the annual results-based work plan/budget developed. Mr Pekkarinen presented the terms of reference (ToR) of the Project Steering Committee (PSC). It was agreed that at least three other meetings would take place during the course of the project implementation. In addition, the project will inform the PSC on a **bimonthly** basis of its activities. PSC meetings will take place in line with the preparation of the project progress report (PPR). The next PSC meeting is scheduled for **September** 2020. Finally, Ms Cóndor presented the project work plan and budget.

Jenny Wong (UNFCCC) asked how the CBIT-Forest project will ensure sustainability and scaling-up. It was explained that the project is linked to existing forest monitoring projects both from the FRA and NFM teams and from existing corporate platforms (e.g. FRA and FAO's E-Learning Centre). Outreach and communication activities will also ensure that the project's results are shared with the large community of practitioners, including PSC members. Ms Wong suggested expanding these efforts to include the UNFCCC Consultative Group of Experts (CGE)[7] to reach a wider audience.

Ellen-Bruzelius Backer (GFOI) requested further clarification on what kind of transparency the project is focusing on. FAO explained that in general forest resource data are not truly transparent because of limited documentation. In addition, in many countries the national forest inventory data may not be accessible. Therefore there is a strong need to improve data-sharing practices. It is evident that there are different dimensions of forest-related transparency to take into account. At global level, the FRA team is collecting official national data and relevant documentation. In future, FRA hopes to become a global information hub that, in addition to providing easy access to documented national-level data and information, allows countries to store and share subnational data. FRA is also trying to improve information exchange among relevant stakeholders such as FRA national correspondents, UNFCCC national focal points, REDD+, as well as National Statistical Offices.

Ms Wong requested clarification on how the case studies will be selected. It was explained that they would follow a series of criteria for selection. Ms Backer requested information on the co-financing of the project. It was explained that

[7] https://unfccc.int/CGE#eq-1

financing is related to ongoing regular programme activities, as well as existing trust fund projects on forest monitoring that run in parallel and have synergies with the CBIT-Forest project.

Ms Cóndor provided further information on digital events that will be used to further disseminate the project's results and reach out to different stakeholders, including the International Forestry Student's Association. Ms Wong was interested in being informed of the event, therefore it was agreed that the concept note would be shared in advance.

### Key recommendations

- Ensure sustainability and up-scaling of the project results by linking to FAO's ongoing activities and corporate platforms.
- Address transparency in its different dimensions. At the technical level, enhance transparency through national and global activities. At the institutional level, involve key stakeholders and facilitate dialogue among them.
- Reach out to key stakeholders using different mechanisms, including the outreach and communication plan.

## 5. Conclusions

The two meetings described above concluded the inception phase of the CBIT-Forest project. In the coming months, activities will aim to:

- contact FAO representatives of the pilot countries to inform governments of the approval of the CBIT-Forest project and start activities in the countries;
- develop and launch the global products of the project, including the e-learning course "Forests and transparency under the Paris Agreement" to be launched, if applicable, during a side event of the Committee of Forests 25 (COFO), infographic on forests and transparency, NFMS needs and gaps assessment tool, and case studies on forests and transparency;
- together with pilot countries (Cote d'Ivoire, Guatemala, Honduras, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Thailand and Uganda), run virtual workshops on NFMS needs and gaps assessment with key forest-related stakeholders, including UNFCCC national focal points. A roadmap will be defined with pilot countries;
- ensure that focal points of national CBIT projects in the pilot countries are informed of the activities of the global CBIT-Forest project;
- ensure implementation and revision of the project work plan, considering new challenges raised by the coronavirus pandemic;
- maintain regular communication externally with the CBIT coordination platform (UNEP, UNDP) and internally with the FAO global CBIT-AFOLU project;
- keep and enhance good collaboration with key international institutions such as UNFCCC and GFOI.

**Building global capacity
to increase transparency in
the forest sector**

**CBIT**
forest

**funded under the Capacity Building Initiative for Transparency
(CBIT) trust fund of the Global Environment Facility (GEF)**

**Report #1, January 2020**

## Introduction

This document outlines the outreach for the project "Building global capacity to increase transparency in the forest sector", funded under the Capacity Building Initiative for Transparency (CBIT) trust fund of the Global Environment Facility (GEF) and implemented by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO).

## Achievements

Outreach is key for the delivery of the project as its value proposition is closely linked to the wealth of knowledge and expertise that the partners involved has generated in its recent years. Thanks to carefully planned and executed outreach activities during and after the project launch on 11 November in 2019, the project raised awareness on the importance of building capacities to increase transparency in forestry. The project will continue ensuring that the role of forests and forest data for sustainable development, improved livelihoods and climate action is better understood and acted upon by policy makers and other relevant actors in the region and globally.

## WEBSITES

### FAO

Project webpage on FAO in Action: www.fao.org/in-action/boosting-transparency-forest-data/en/

| STATISTICS | Top three links: |
|---|---|
| Timeframe: Nov 11, 2019- Jan 7, 2020 | www.fao.org/in-action/boosting-transparency-forest-data/en/ |
| Total pageviews: 1 831 | www.fao.org/in-action/boosting-transparency-forest-data/background/en/ |
| Avg. Session Duration: 03:38 | www.fao.org/in-action/boosting-transparency-forest-data/es/ |

Project subtabs on FAO REDD+ (www.fao.org/redd/initiatives/cbit-forest/en/) and FAO Global Forest Resources Assessments (www.fao.org/forest-resources-assessment/initiatives/en/) pages

### CBIT Global Coordination Platform

Project webpage on CBIT platform: https://www.cbitplatform.org/projects/building-global-capacity-increase-transparency-forest-sector-cbit-forest

## PRESS RELEASES

### FAO

Helping countries better monitor and report on forest and land-use under the Paris Climate Agreement

FAO and GEF team up in new project to make forest data more transparent, accessible and available

**11 November 2019, Rome -** FAO today launched a new $7.1 million project supported by the Global Environment Facility (GEF) to make forest data more accessible, transparent and available, and, in particular, help developing countries to meet the Paris Climate Agreement's enhanced transparency requirements.

STATISTICS (Timeframe: Nov 11, 2019- Jan 7, 2020)
Total pageviews: 3,310
Avg. Session Duration: 02:47

## GEF

[Helping countries better monitor and report on forest and land-use under the Paris Climate Agreement](#)
November 12, 2019

**FAO and GEF team up in new project to make forest data more transparent, accessible and available**

On November 11, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) launched a new $7.1 million project supported by the Global Environment Facility (GEF) to make forest data more accessible, transparent and available, and, in particular, help developing countries to meet the Paris Climate Agreement's [enhanced transparency requirements](#).

# WEB STORIES AND ARTICLES

## Promotion on FAO webpages

REDD+ ([www.fao.org/redd/en/](http://www.fao.org/redd/en/) ) - [News](#)

Global Forest Resources Assessment (FRA) - [Highlights](#)

FAO and Climate Change - [News](#)

FAO and GEF - [www.fao.org/gef/en/](http://www.fao.org/gef/en/)

## GEF

GEF-CBIT web site - What's new
[Helping countries better monitor and report on forest and...](#)

## Others

UN NEWS
[New UN forestry project bids to help countries meet climate change commitments](#)

Humanitarian News
[World: Helping countries better monitor and report on forest and land-use under the Paris Climate Agreement](#)

International Institute for Sustainable Development (IISD)
[FAO-GEF project to enhance country monitoring and reporting on forests](#)

UN-REDD Programme
[Moving Towards the Transparency Framework under the Paris Agreement](#)

Global Forest Observations Initiative (GFOI)
[New FAO and GEF collaboration will improve transparency of forest and land-use data under the Paris Agreement](#)

reliefweb.int/
[Helping countries better monitor and report on forest and land-use under the Paris Climate Agreement](#)

governmenteuropa.eu
[Forest data transparency project aims to meet sustainability goals](#)

[26 Nations set to benefit from UN forestry project to tackle climate change](#)

[Accordo sul Clima di Parigi: la FAO lancia programma per rendere i dati forestali più accessibili](#)

# NEWSLETTERS / MAILING LISTS

**FAO**
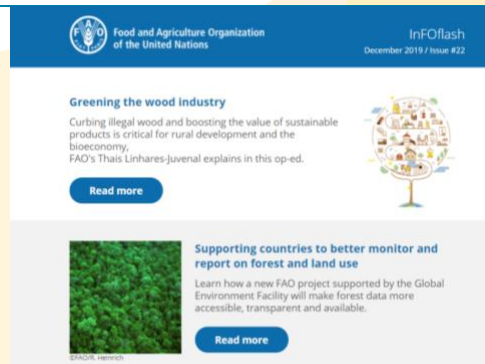


InFOflash [No 22 December 2019](#)

**GEF**



Issue [#10 December 2019](#)

**UN-REDD Programme newsletter**



Issues [#76 December 2019](#) and [#75 September/November 2019](#)
Specifically:
- Blog post *[Moving Towards the Transparency Framework under the Paris Agreement](#)* by Rocio Condor (also in [Spanish](#) and [French](#))

- Blog post *How a Robust National Forest Monitoring System Can Boost Transparency under the Paris Agreement* by Rocio Condor and Rebecca Tavani

| Other mailing lists and newsletters | • IISD Forest, Climate and SDG lists<br>• FAO Climate change newsletter<br>• Global Forest Information Service |
|---|---|

# SOCIAL MEDIA

## Twitter
### From FAO accounts

@FAOForestry
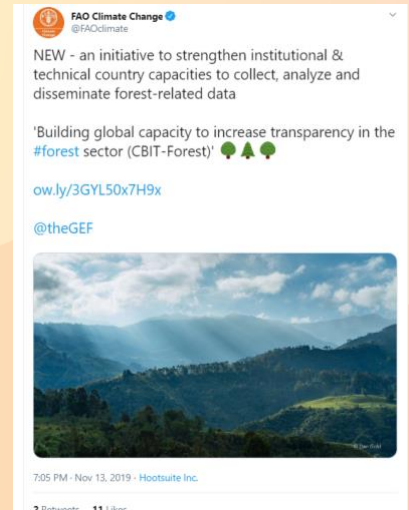


**STATISTICS**
**Timeframe: Nov 11, 2019- Jan 9,**

**Impressions: 7535**

@FAOnews



@FAOClimate



### GEF
https://twitter.com/theGEF/status/1196438261243269121?s=03
https://twitter.com/theGEF/status/1198921791202373633?s=03
https://twitter.com/theGEF/status/1203900840945356800?s=03
https://twitter.com/theGEF/status/1207254410184839173?s=20

### Others
United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)
https://twitter.com/UNEP/status/1198205886717714432?s=03
UNEP DTU

https://twitter.com/UNEPDTU/status/1194900280166559744

Global Forest Observations Initiative (GFOI)
https://twitter.com/gfoi_forest/status/1193831975599136769?s=20

Program on Forests
https://twitter.com/forestideas/status/1197520076553048064?s=03

UN-REDD Programme
https://twitter.com/unredd/status/1197842419779358721?s=20

Climate Reality
https://twitter.com/ClimateReality/status/1201158513415933952?s=03

Christian Hofer (@HoferChofer)
https://twitter.com/HoferChofer/status/1202550321907748864?s=03

## Facebook

Paris Committee on Capacity-building
https://m.facebook.com/story.php?story_fbid=2448012328772854&id=21767948
29227940&sfnsn=scwspmo

https://m.facebook.com/story.php?story_fbid=2447994745441279&id=21767948
29227940&sfnsn=scwspmo

GFOI
https://www.facebook.com/gfoi1/photos/pb.558522134325856.-
2207520000../1399127040265357/?type=3&theater

# EVENTS

## Conferences
### UN Climate Change Conference (COP25) - December 2019
Project presented by Ms Tiina Vahanen (Chief, Forestry, Policy and Resources Division, FAO) during a side event of the Global Forest Observations Initiative and at the High-Level Event on #Forest

# PUBLICATIONS

### FAO
Project One-pager: http://www.fao.org/3/ca7424en/ca7424en.pdf
Versions in Spanish and French upcoming

### GEF
GEF flyer on CBIT (2019):
https://www.thegef.org/sites/default/files/publications/gef_cbit_201911_EN.pdf
Leaflet on CBIT (2018):
https://www.thegef.org/sites/default/files/publications/GEF_CBIT_Nov2018_CRA.pdf
Progress report from GEF on CBIT at COP24/UNFCCC and COP25/UNFCCC

# PARTNERSHIPS AND COLLABORATIONS

### List of partners involved
- FAO Global Forest Resources Assessment (FRA) network of national correspondents
- Network of CBIT coordinators
- United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)
- UNEP DTU
- United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)
- Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC)
- National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA)
- Global Forest Observations Initiative (GFOI)
- Regional organizations and processes involved in the Collaborative Forest Resources Questionnaire (CFRQ)

# COURSES

### FAO E-learning course on:
### "Forests and Transparency for the Paris Agreement"
 To be published in the FAO e-learning corporate web page (here)

# Annex II. Work plan

| Outputs | Activities | Year 1 (2020) | | | | Year 2 (2021) | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | Q1 | Q2 | Q3 | Q4 | Q1 | Q2 | Q3 | Q4 |
| **Component 1: Supporting developing countries to strengthen their institutional capacity to exchange knowledge and raise awareness of the importance of forest-related data to respond to the Enhanced Transparency Framework (ETF).** | | | | | | | | | |
| Output 1.1.1. Upgraded Global FRA reporting platform to improve access to forest-related data, support transparency-related activities and tracking process of NDCs designed and implemented. | 1.1.1.1 Identify and select functionalities/modules for inclusion in the FRA reporting platform | ▓ | ▓ | | | | | | |
| | 1.1.1.2 Implement and test new functionalities/modules with men and women | | ▓ | ▓ | | | ▓ | ▓ | |
| | 1.1.1.3 Collect users experience from implementing new functionalities/modules | | | ▓ | ▓ | | | | |
| Output 1.1.2. Global set of knowledge and training material on forest-related ETF package developed for and accessed by policymakers and technical experts in different languages and with different focus. | 1.1.2.1 Collect and review forest-related material linked to the ETF | ▓ | ▓ | | | | | | |
| | 1.1.2.2 Identify and organize the content of the forest-related ETF (key messages) | ▓ | ▓ | | | | | | |
| | 1.1.2.3 Develop the e-learning course for high profile and technical target audiences in English | | ▓ | ▓ | | | | | |
| | 1.1.2.4 Develop awareness raising material for policymakers/technical experts in different languages (e.g. infographics, flyer, info booklet) with gender equality emphasised. | | | ▓ | | | | | |
| Output 1.1.3 Regional high-level awareness raising and capacity building with key national stakeholders organized and executed. | 1.1.3.1 Develop a training programme for the regional workshops | | | ▓ | | | | | |
| | 1.1.3.2 Develop a concept note(s) for the regional workshop(s) following FAO's capacity development principles and encouraging women's participation. | | | ▓ | | | | | |
| | 1.1.3.3 Run the regional workshops and implement stocktaking assessment(s) including gender aspects | | | | ▓ | | ▓ | | |
| **Component 2: Supporting developing countries to strengthen their technical capacity on data collection, analysis and dissemination of forest-related data to respond to the ETF.** | | | | | | | | | |
| Output 2.1.1 A global forest field observation repository to assist efforts to measure and report in compliance with the ETF developed for integration to the global forest-related platform. | 2.1.1.1 Collect national forest inventory (NFI) information | | ▓ | ▓ | ▓ | ▓ | | | |
| | 2.1.1.2 Analyse and clean NFI data | | ▓ | ▓ | ▓ | ▓ | | | |
| | 2.1.1.3 Upload NFI data and metadata in the repository of the FRA reporting platform. | | ▓ | ▓ | ▓ | ▓ | | | |
| Output 2.1.2 Technical Regional/ National capacity built of relevant focal points on national forest monitoring systems for improved integration and consistency with international reporting processes (NDCs, REDD+) | 2.1.2.1 Define and consult pilot countries | ▓ | | | | | | | |
| | 2.1.2.2 Carry out capacity-building needs and gap assessment in pilot countries, with a defined process and methodology | | ▓ | | | | | | |
| | 2.1.2.3 Design the capacity-building activity in pilot countries | | ▓ | | | | | | |
| | 2.1.2.4 Implement technical capacity-building activities in pilot countries with gender aspects | | | ▓ | | | | | |
| Output 2.1.3 Roadmap in pilot countries on key gaps and barriers for the continued enhancement of national and global forest-related transparency identified and presented. | 2.1.3.1 Review already existing national forest monitoring assessments, linked to the initial needs and gaps assessment (2.1.2.2) | | | ▓ | | | | | |
| | 2.1.3.2 Produce a roadmap for the continued enhancement of national and global activities | | | | ▓ | ▓ | | | |
| **Component 3: Sharing knowledge and improving coordination to respond to the ETF** | | | | | | | | | |
| Output 3.1.1 Best practices and case studies on successful transparency-related activities, identified, documented and shared. | 3.1.1.1 Identify and analyse information regarding the best practices/case studies | ▓ | | | | | | | |
| | 3.1.1.2 Document and develop best practices/case studies communication material | | ▓ | | | | | | |
| | 3.1.1.3 Disseminate best practices/case studies in already existing global platforms | | ▓ | ▓ | ▓ | ▓ | ▓ | ▓ | ▓ |
| Output 3.1.2 Outreach and communication products developed, published and disseminated | 3.1.2.1 Develop an outreach and knowledge management plan | ▓ | | | | | | | |
| | 3.1.2.2 Develop a communication tool kit | | ▓ | ▓ | | | ▓ | | |
| | 3.1.2.3 Disseminate outreach and communication products | | ▓ | ▓ | ▓ | ▓ | ▓ | ▓ | ▓ |

## Annex III. List of participants at the inception workshop

| Surname, Name | Division | Expertise | Participation |
|---|---|---|---|
| Boscolo, Marco | FOA | Forest Governance and Economics | Present |
| Branthomme, Anne | FOA | Global Forest Resources Assessment | Present |
| Garzuglia, Monica | FOA | Global Forest Resources Assessment | Absent |
| Cóndor, Rocio | FOA | National Forest Monitoring, CBIT | Present |
| Cristina, Petracchi | PSPA | E-learning | Present |
| Dannunzio, Remi | FOA | National Forest Monitoring | Present |
| Fox, Julian | FOA | National Forest Monitoring | Present |
| Francesca Felicani | FOA | REDD+ | Present |
| GarciaPerez, Javier | FOA | National Forest Monitoring | Present |
| Vesa, Lauri | FOA | National Forest Monitoring | Absent |
| Gonzalez, Hernan | CBC | GEF project cycle | Present |
| Griffin, Jeff | CBC | GEF project cycle | Present |
| Jonckheere, Inge | FOA | National Forest Monitoring | Present |
| Kukharava, Maryia | FOA | Outreach and knowledge management | Present |
| Matieu Henry | CBD/FOA | National Forest Monitoring | Present |
| Naito, Yurie | CBC | GEF project cycle | Present |
| Bernoux, Martial | CBC | CBIT | Absent |
| Pekkarinen, Anssi | FOA | Global Forest Resources Assessment | Present |
| Wertz, Sheila | FOA | Forest Resources Management | Absent |
| LinharesJuvenal, Thais | FOA | Forest Governance and Economics | Absent |
| BuszkoBriggs, Malgorzata | FOA | REDD+ | Absent |
| Taber, Andrew | FOA | Social Forestry | Absent |
| Hewitt, Daphne | FOA | FLEGT | Absent |
| Walter, Sven | FOA | Forest Products & Statistics | Absent |
| Csoka, Peter | FOA | World Forestry Congress | Absent |
| Makino, Yuka | FOA | Water & Mountains | Absent |
| Salvatore, Mirella | CBC | CBIT | Present |
| Sandker, Marieke | FOA | National Forest Monitoring | Present |
| Tavani, Rebecca | FOA | National Forest Monitoring | Present |
| VeyretPicot, Maude | CBC | GEF project cycle | Present |
| Yoshihiko, Aga | FOA | National Forest Monitoring | Present |

**Project Steering Committee**
**Building global capacity to increase transparency in the forest sector (CBIT-Forest)**
**GCP /GLO/882/CBT**

# Terms of reference

## Objectives

The objective of the Project Steering Committee (PSC) is to provide support and advice on the **"Building global capacity to increase transparency in the forest sector (CBIT-Forest)"** and to ensure effective implementation to make the project successful as stated in the project document.

Its mission is not only an advisory body but also to provide necessary guidance for the project's staff and support their efforts to ensure that all scheduled and previewed activities are accomplished in time and to encourage cooperation between all partners.

## Functions and responsibilities

The PSC will meet three times during the lifetime of the project, in particular to:
  i.    monitor the progress of the project and the results achieved, such as those presented in the six-monthly progress reports;
  ii.   facilitate cooperation between the project and other pertinent projects and programs underway; and
  iii.  monitor the key results of the project to ensure its sustainability, including up-scaling and replication.

## Constitution of the committee

The members of the Project Steering Committee include:
  1.  the Budget Holder – Team Leader of FAO National Forest Monitoring Team;
  2.  the Lead Technical Officer – FAO's Global Forest Resources Assessments Team Leader;
  3.  a representative of the Global Forest Observations Initiative (GFOI) Leads Group;
  4.  a representative of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC);
  5.  the project coordinator (Secretary of the PSC).

The members of the PSC will each fill the role of focal point for the project in their respective agencies. As a result, and as such a focal point, will ensure: (i) supervision of the activities relating to the mandate of the respective agency; (ii) a fluid two-way exchange of information and knowledge between their agency and the project; (iii) coordination and alignment between the activities of the project and the strategies and regular programme of their agency; and (iv) reporting on parallel financing relating to the project, including endorsed co-financing as per the project document.

The PSC is chaired by the Budget Holder and co-chaired by the Lead Technical Officer. The Secretary of the PSC is the project coordinator. The PSC can invite other institutions and/or persons to participate on an *ad hoc* basis.

## Committee meetings

As indicated in the project document, the PSC will meet three times in 2020 and 2021. Additional *ad hoc* meetings can be requested by the Project Management Unit, if necessary, in consultation with the chair. The meetings to be called will require a 15-day notice in writing to members. The committee will meet in person, when possible, or via teleconference. All proposed agenda items and meeting documents should be forwarded to the Secretariat at least 15 days before the next scheduled meeting. All meetings will be called by the project coordinator.

## Quorum

A quorum will be achieved when at least four PSC members are present and recommendations are made unanimously. If a PSC member is unable to attend the meeting, quorum can still be achieved if the member provides written notice and delegates decision-making to the other PSC members.

## Effect of terms of reference

These terms of reference do not affect, modify, limit or interfere with the responsibilities of FAO and PSC member institutions as defined in the project document, which guides the interpretation of these terms of reference.

## Amendment

If necessary, the terms of reference may be amended with the consent of all PSC members.

## Reporting

The minutes of the PSC meeting should be recorded and circulated to members by the Secretary within two weeks, for review and approval within two weeks from receipt of the minutes. These minutes should include the responsible institutions and time frame in relation to the proposed follow-up actions.