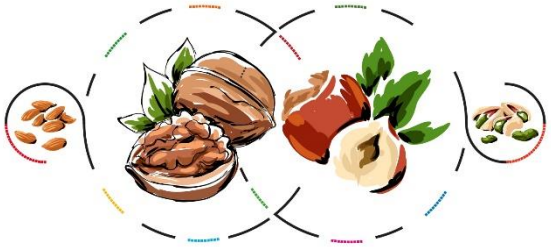
CONFERENCE & EXPO



SUSTAINABLE NATURAL RESOURCES AND THEIR VALUE CHAINS - **NUTS**

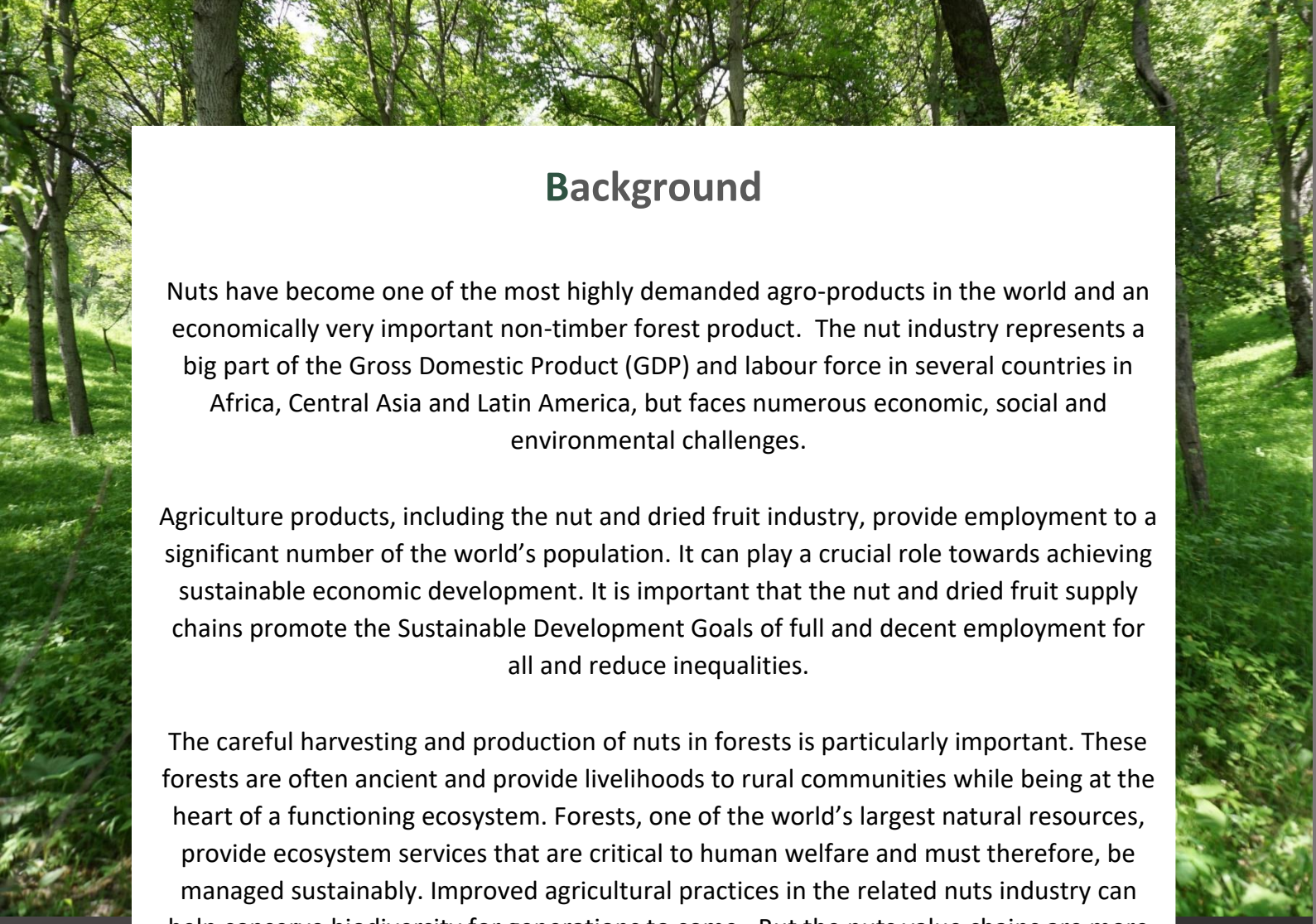
ROOM VII, Palais des Nations, Geneva

14:00 - 17:30 25 June 2019

UNECE

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

Join the event and taste a variety of nuts and dried fruits in front of Delegates' Lounge, 3rd Floor, Palais des Nations at 14:00



Background

Nuts have become one of the most highly demanded agro-products in the world and an economically very important non-timber forest product. The nut industry represents a big part of the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) and labour force in several countries in Africa, Central Asia and Latin America, but faces numerous economic, social and environmental challenges.

Agriculture products, including the nut and dried fruit industry, provide employment to a significant number of the world's population. It can play a crucial role towards achieving sustainable economic development. It is important that the nut and dried fruit supply chains promote the Sustainable Development Goals of full and decent employment for all and reduce inequalities.

The careful harvesting and production of nuts in forests is particularly important. These forests are often ancient and provide livelihoods to rural communities while being at the heart of a functioning ecosystem. Forests, one of the world's largest natural resources, provide ecosystem services that are critical to human welfare and must therefore, be managed sustainably. Improved agricultural practices in the related nuts industry can help conserve biodiversity for generations to come. But the nuts value chains are more and more affected by climate change. As nut trees require adequate temperatures and climatic conditions to produce economically viable yields, environmental changes can have a major impact on the crop yield.

The objective of the conference and the exposition is to highlight the contribution of wild or forests nuts to sustainable development including bio-diversity, local communities, employment generation, natural resources management and supply chain integration. The exposition and tasting of nuts will provide the participants a first-hand glimpse of the actual products grown in the forests and inform about the local communities, the forests and their value chains.

For more information, please contact Mr. Khan Salehin (khan.salehin@un.org) or Ms. Sofia Demenegi (sofia.demenegi@un.org).