The role of wood value chains’ in achieving the SDGs
The Sustainable wood for a Sustainable World Joint CPF Initiative

Coalition of international organizations to deliver strong message on the utmost importance of sustainable wood value chains to achieve SDGs and accelerate achieving climate change objectives, and build enabling conditions for enlarged responsible wood markets.
Background

✓ Launched at UNFF14 in May 2018
✓ Focus on restoring the importance of wood as part of sustainable forest management, forest conservation and restoration strategies.
✓ Value chain approach adopted to better capture contributions from sustainable wood to sustainable rural and urban landscapes.
✓ Works to enhance direct contributions to SDGs: 11 SDGs identified.
How sustainable wood value chains contribute to the SDGs?
Forestry has a high multiplier effect in other economic sectors: more than double the amount of its direct contribution to value added, employment and labour income.

Mobilization of governments, private sector, communities and civil society

Increased attractiveness of sustainable forest management and sustainable plantations, contributing to sustainable landscapes.

Wood products can substitute more intense fossil fuel materials extending the climate benefits from forests

Wood suitability to cascading and circularity makes: roughly 100% of a tree is used for production of a range of products.

Wood products contribute to reduce waste, carbon emissions, and well-being. Peri-urban forests can provide leisure as well as be local source of wood.

Wood products contribute $1.3 billion to the whole economy. Be 80-90% of the sector are SME

Wood based industry constantly innovating toward climate-friendly materials and fuels.

2.4 million people rely on wood fuel for cooking and water sterilization

Sustainable forest management is a vehicle for women empowerment; high presence of women in wood value chains.

Critical for access to energy, generates local income and employment, including for women.
Objectives

1. **Raise awareness** of the availability of sustainable wood products and their wide uses and benefits;

2. **Dispel perception** of wood production as a driver of environmental damage and inequity;

3. **Unblock markets and finance** for sustainable wood;

4. **Build Capacity** for strengthening sustainable wood value chains;

5. **Show how, when and where wood contributes** to sustainable bioeconomy;

Exploring the linkages between:

- Forest management
- Landscapes
- Value chains
- Livelihoods
- Markets
- Investments and financing mechanisms
The Initiative operates at four levels:

**POLICY LEVEL**
Improved policies, incentives and institutional frameworks, aiming at strengthening sustainable wood-based value chains.

**OPERATIONAL LEVEL**
Promote knowledge and innovation, improving productivity, decent employment, forest management, governance arrangements, incentive mechanisms, and inclusiveness across wood-based value chains.

**SCIENTIFIC LEVEL**
Evidence-based picture of wood production (including its multiple benefits, challenges, and opportunities for growth) through science and research, disentangling some controversies and misperceptions about the sustainability of wood and its environmental and social impacts.

**POLITICAL LEVEL**
Advocacy of the wide-reaching benefits of sustainable wood and strong messaging against production and consumption of products which have led to deforestation, degradation and aggravation of social inequities.
SW4SW Concrete actions

✓ Normative and applied work:

- Voluntary guidelines forest concessions – FAO, CIFOR, ITTO, WB (with other partners);
- Value chain’s sustainability assessment (Congo Basin) – FAO/WWF
- Rosewood (mukula) value chains and trade assessment (Zambia) – CIFOR/CITES
- Green supply chains (China-Africa) – ITTO/WWF
- Sustainable wood production (Mozambique) – WB/FAO/WWF
- Database timber legality (global) – FAO
- Expert meeting “Catalyzing private finance to forestry” (FAO)
- Capacity building for accessing finance (global, Uganda, Kenya) – FAO
- Sustainable plantations to support wood in the bioeconomy – WWF/FAO

SW4SW Concrete actions

✓ Dialogue on linkages and cross-sectoral governance:
  - Regional/national SW4SW Dialogues: (Africa Francophone countries and Cameroon national dialogues in Douala, Cameroon; African non-Francophone countries and South Africa national dialogue in Johannesburg, South Africa)
  - Global Forestry Industry Forum – SW4SW in Nanning city, China (Dialogue on sustainable timber trade and production)
  - Wood in sustainable bioeconomy, Rome, Italy

✓ Advocacy
  - Media campaign - Forestry Communicators Network/All partners

SW4SW in Europe and Central Asia
Addressing market barriers

✓ Update regulations and create incentives for the use of sustainable wood.
✓ Support inclusion of sustainable wood in climate change and bioeconomy strategies.
✓ Increase knowledge on benefits from sustainable wood value chains for sustainable development.
✓ Support forest farming in forests under private tenure of individual or families, mostly smallholders, which account for approximately 56% of European forests.
Future Work
Future Work

✓ Support increased legality, reduced transaction costs, and increased value addition in wood-value chains, including at national and regional level.

✓ Strengthen the business case for sustainable wood value chains, with focus on institutional mechanisms and capacity building.

✓ Support evidence-based formulation of cross-sectoral policies and programmes, including through assessment of positive linkages and economic impact of wood value chains (SDGs 1 and 8), innovation, efficiency and the impact of substitution for climate change mitigation (SDGs 9, 12 and 13).

✓ Advance the inclusion of wood in the bioeconomy, including through creating a working group to develop practical guidance for enabling contributions from wood products to the bioeconomy in developing and developed countries.
Points for Consideration
The Commission may wish to invite countries in the region to:

(a) Support the objectives of the “Sustainable Wood For a Sustainable World” initiative and their dissemination and implementation.

(b) Strengthen the initiative by connecting it to other relevant processes and initiatives, at global, regional and national levels.

(c) Provide financial and/or in-kind contributions to scale up the SW4SW.
The Commission may wish to request FAO to:

(a) Support country efforts in the region to assess and harness the main contributions of sustainable wood value chains to the SDGs and climate change, as well as engendering and strengthening wood-based bioeconomy at national level;

(b) Seek further cooperation with regional partners to build capacities to strengthen sustainable wood value chains and their contributions to advance sustainable forest management, achieve sustainable landscapes and climate change objectives, including in relation to the Decade of Family Farming and the Decade of Ecosystem Restoration;

(c) Engage with the public and private sectors to improve the public perception of sustainable wood products, emphasizing the benefits of sustainable wood value chains and pointing out the differences between sustainable and unsustainable wood products.
Thank you

#SW4SW
#woodisgood