

An aerial photograph of a vast, dense forest. A winding road is visible through the trees on the left side. In the background, there are rolling hills and some distant structures under a clear sky.

October 25, 2021

2021 AFoCO Annual Thematic Dialogue

**“Roles of AFoCO in
Unleashing the Full Potential of Forests
to Meet Paris Climate Goals and
Building Back Better and Greener from the COVID-19”**

INTRODUCTORY SPEECH

**AFoCO in the Triple Challenges
Facing Asia and the Globe**

Mr. Ricardo L. Calderon
Executive Director of AFoCO

COVID-19 Pandemic



(Source: Ministry of Culture, Sports, Tourism of Korea)



(Source: KT/Pann Rachana)



(Source: REUTERS/Navesh Chitrakar)

COVID-19 Pandemic



“... The COVID-19 pandemic has evolved from a major public health crisis to become also a major economic and jobs crisis, the full extent of which is still unfolding. The economic impact is enormous, as we are facing the most severe recession in nearly a century, with long-lasting repercussions for people, firms and governments.”



(Source: Ministry of Culture, Sports, Tourism of Korea)

(Source: REUTERS/Navesh Chitrakar)

COVID-19 Pandemic



“The pandemic is also inextricably **intertwined with global environmental issues such as biodiversity loss, climate change, air and water pollution, and waste management**, both in terms of its origin and the implications for environmental outcomes and the future well-being of societies around the world. ... ”



(Source: Ministry of Culture, Sports, Tourism of Korea)

(Source: REUTERS/Navesh Chitrakar)

COVID-19 Pandemic

Figure 1.1.1 Daily new COVID-19 cases in developing Asia

New and more infectious variants are driving outbreaks across the region.

Per million population, 7-day moving average

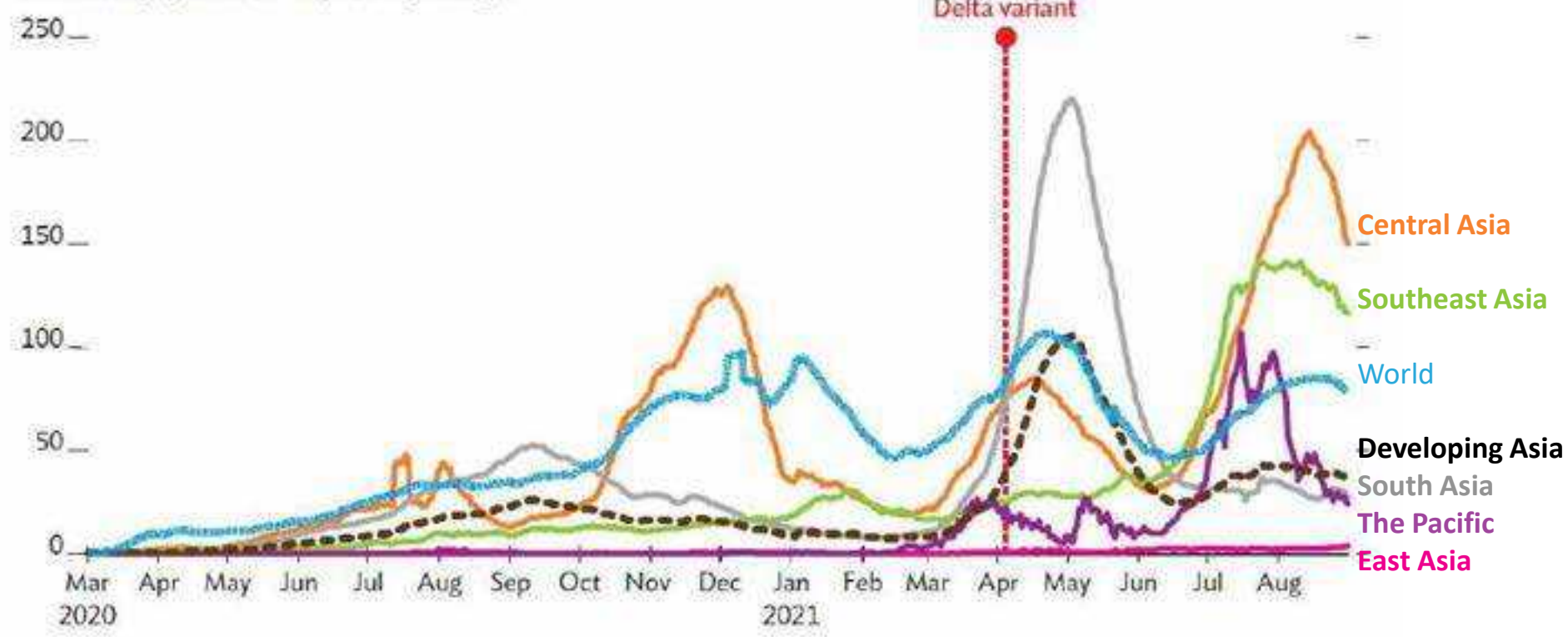
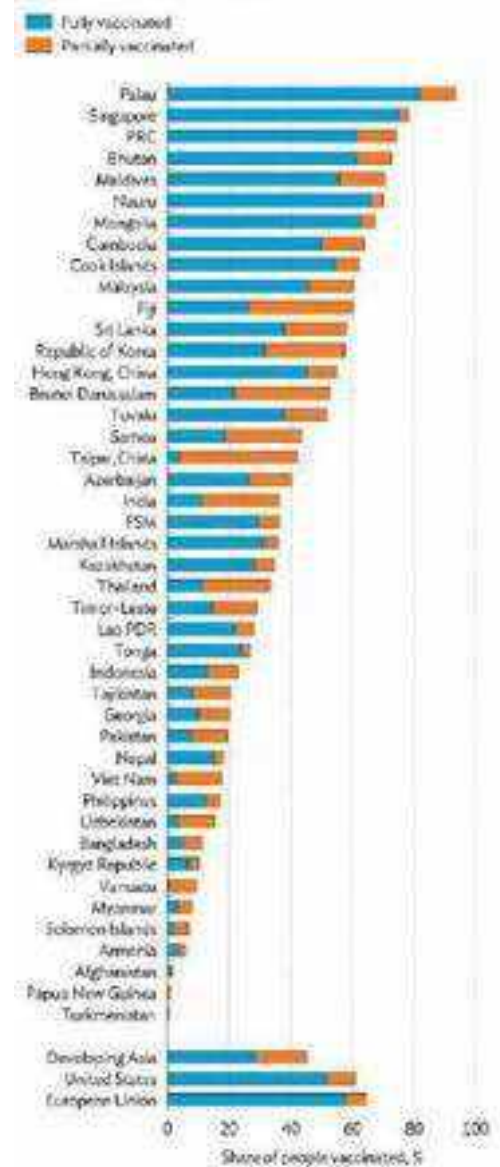


Figure 1.1.2 Vaccinated against COVID-19

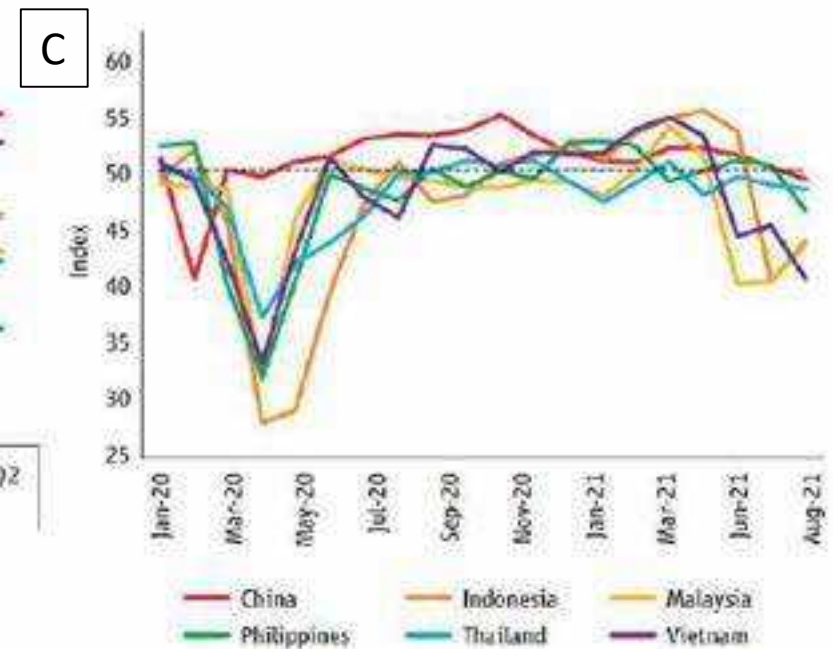
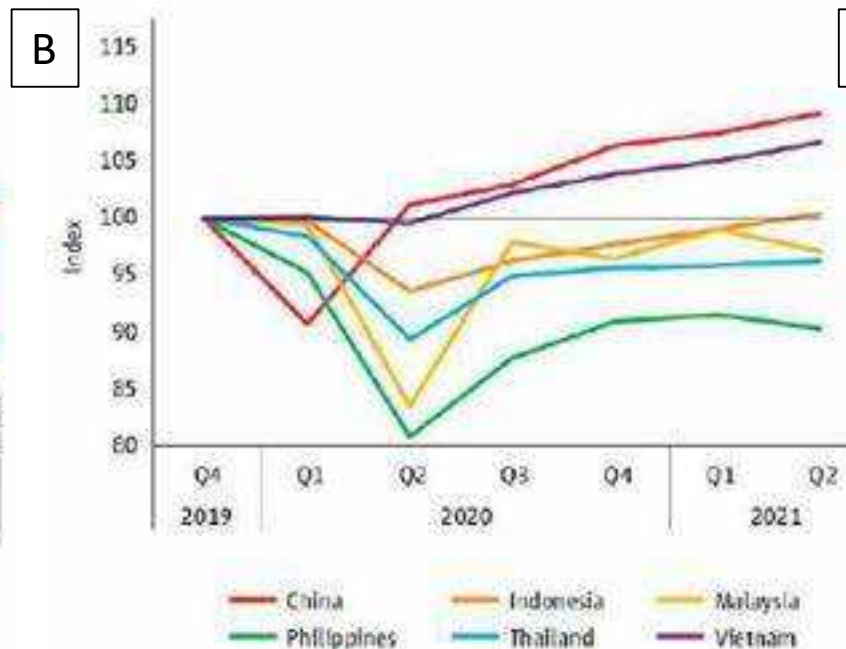
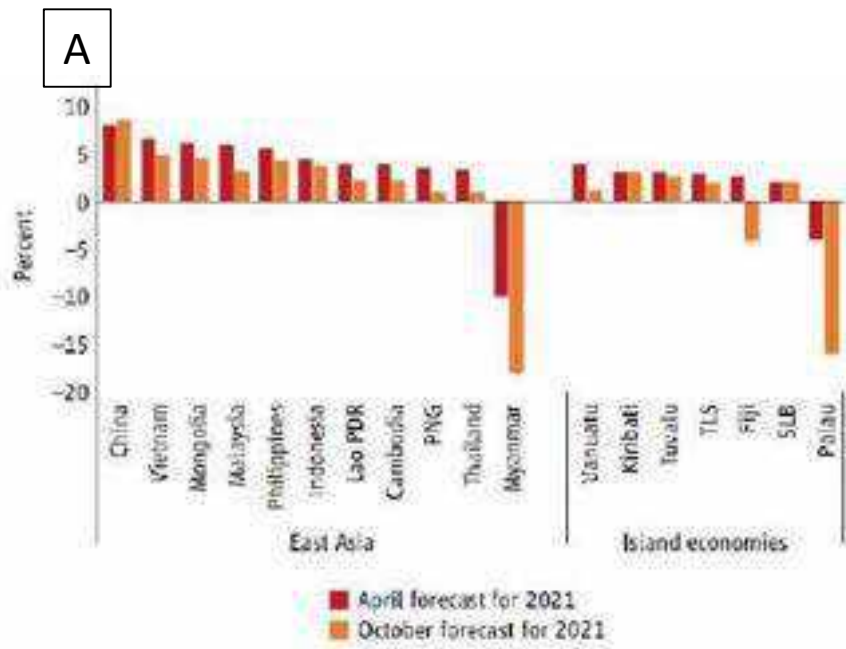
Developing Asia's vaccination progress remains uneven and lags behind advanced economies.



(Graphics source: ADB, 2021)

Economy under COVID-19 Pandemic

- World Bank (2021) reported the pattern of uneven economic recovery across East Asia and Pacific countries. And it was further forecasted the speed of recovery will face a setback, except for China [A].
- GDP of China and Vietnam had bounced back and reached beyond the pandemic levels in 2020 [B].
- But the Purchasing Managers Index (PMI) demonstrates that the market conditions are recently drastically contracting in Viet Nam [C] (World Bank, 2021).



Economy under COVID-19 Pandemic



73% OF HOUSEHOLDS REPORTED INCOME DECLINE

- 8,000 households surveyed in 8 Association of Southeast Asian Nation (ASEAN) countries*
- 54%-84% income decline range across these countries



44% OF HOUSEHOLDS REPORTED AT LEAST ONE MEMBER LOST THEIR JOB OR HAD WORKING HOURS REDUCED

- 25%-75% range across surveyed countries

PERCENTAGE WHO REPORTED A DROP IN INCOME, BY GROUP

- Household businesses/self-employed: 83%
- Farmers/fishermen: 60%
- Wage earners: 59%
- Remittance recipients: 56%



55% OF HOUSEHOLDS EXPERIENCED FINANCIAL DIFFICULTIES

- 27%-85% range across surveyed countries



(Source: ADB, 2020)

COVID-19 Pandemic and Forests



Global Forest Goal 1.

Reverse the loss of forest cover worldwide through SFM, including protection, restoration, afforestation and reforestation, and increase efforts to prevent forest degradation and contribute to the global effort of addressing climate change.



Global Forest Goal 2.

Enhance forest-based economic, social and environmental benefits, including by improving the livelihoods of forest dependent people.

COVID-19 Pandemic and Forests



Global Forest Goal 1.

Reverse the loss of forest cover worldwide through SFM, including protection, restoration, afforestation and reforestation, and increase efforts to prevent forest degradation and contribute to the global effort of addressing climate change.

- **Indonesia:** Increasing pressure on the forest, driven by the increased demand for forest product demand (Golar et al., 2020)
- **Cameroon, Gabon, DRC:** Deforestation for the establishment of palm trees (Walters et al., 2021)
- **Nepal:** Increased illegal logging and hunting & cancellation of regular forest management practices and capacity building activities (Giri, 2021)

COVID-19 Pandemic and Forests



Global Forest Goal 2.

Enhance forest-based economic, social and environmental benefits, including by improving the livelihoods of forest dependent people.

- **Thailand:** Job loss in the forest sector & decrease of income in forest-based tourism sites (Giri, 2021)
- **Fiji, Gabon, Hawaii, Pakistan, Tanzania:** Job loss from the collapse of tourism (Walters et al., 2021)
- **Mexico:** Reduced demand on forest products and subsequent job loss (Tomaselli, 2021)
- **Germany & Slovakia:** Increased visits to forest and urban green spaces forest visits (Weinbrenner et al. 2021; Pichlerová et al., 2021)

COVID-19 Pandemic and Forests

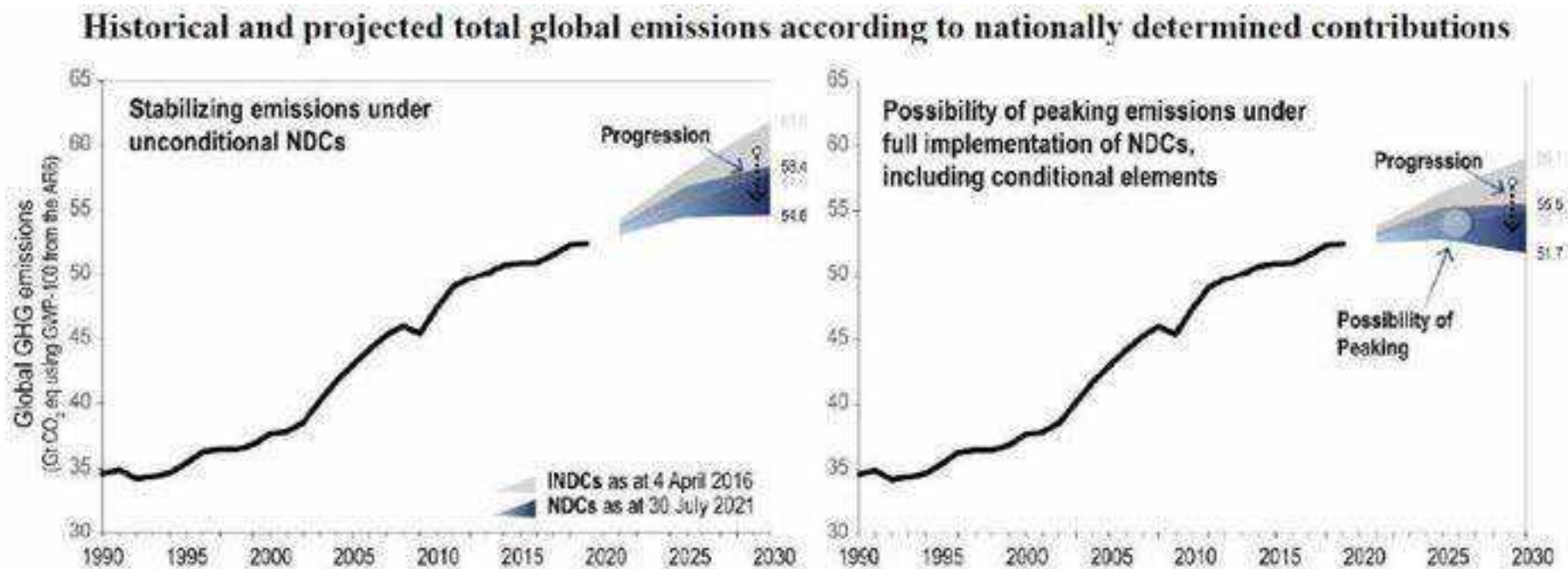


Global Forest Goal 2.

Enhance forest-based economic, social and environmental benefits, including by improving the livelihoods of forest dependent people.

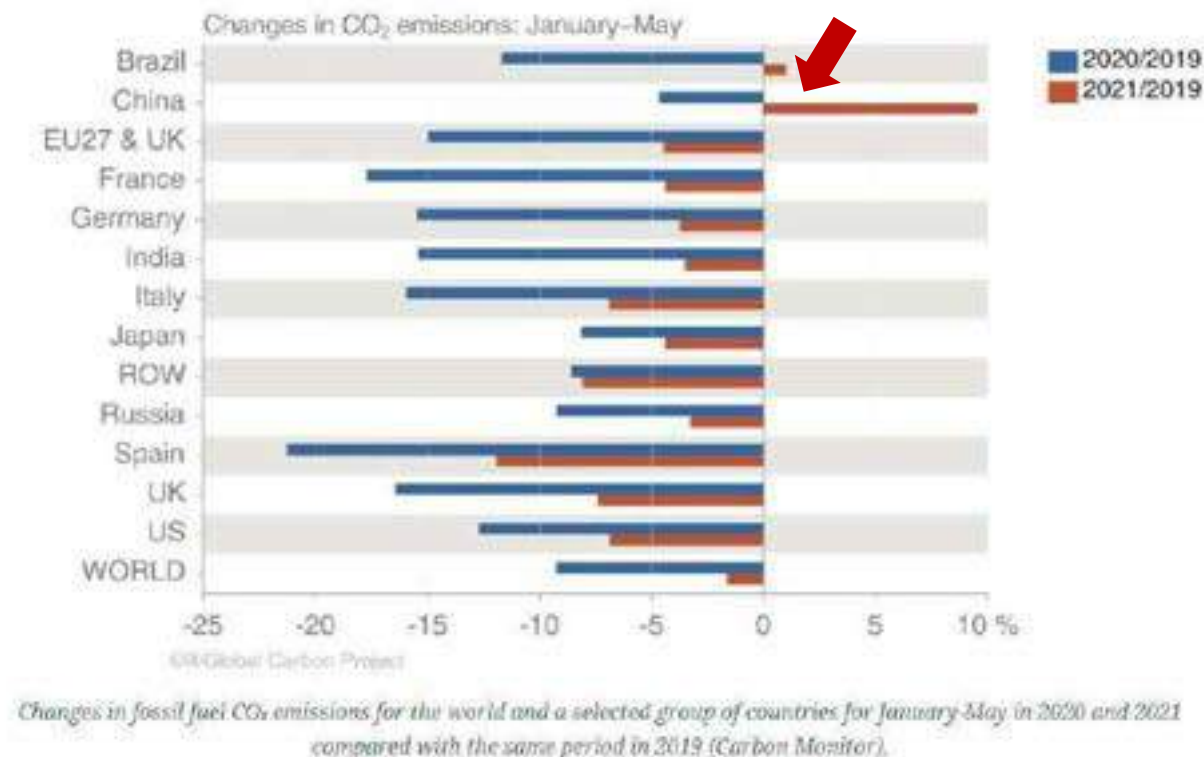
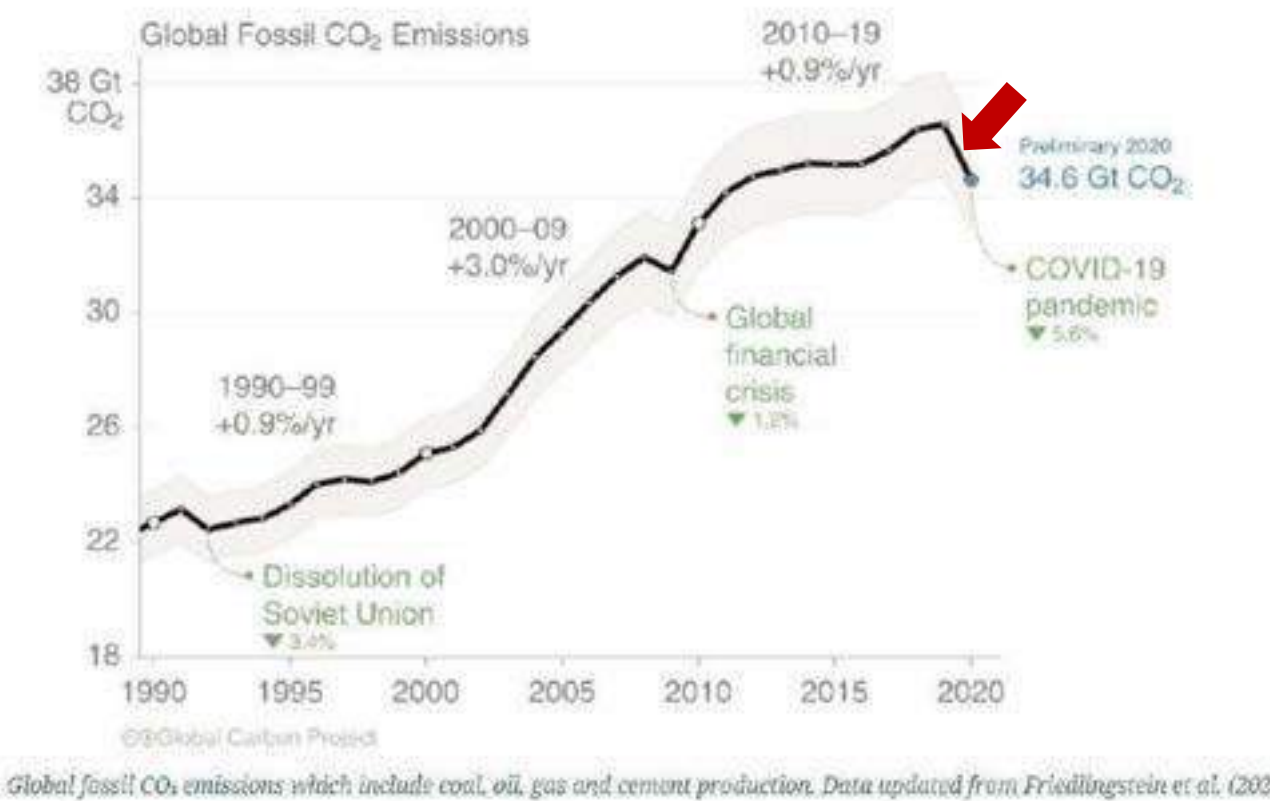
- **7 Asian countries:** Livelihood assets enhanced under the ‘community forestry’ regime increased of resilience of the communities to the socio-economic impacts of the pandemic (RECOFTC, 2021)
- **India:** Empowered local communities exhibited better crisis management (Walters et al., 2021)
- **Guatemala:** Increased usage of traditional medicine by indigenous people (Walters et al., 2021)

Updated and Enhanced Climate Commitment

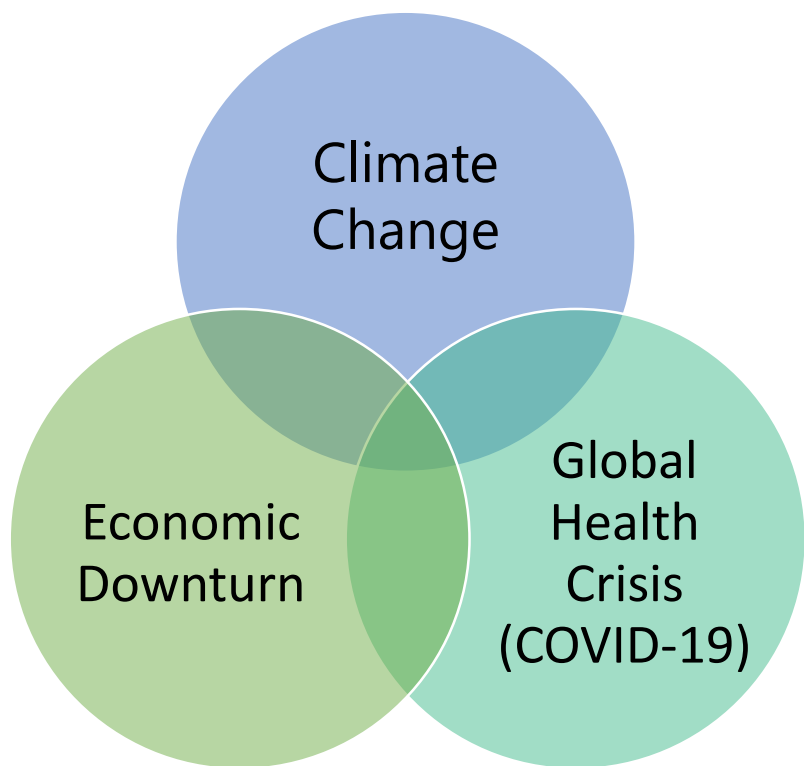


Note: Emissions with LULUCF in 2030 resulting from implementation of the new or updated NDCs are estimated to be 59.1 (57.2–61.0) Gt CO₂ eq considering unconditional elements and 56.2 (54.3–58.1) Gt CO₂ eq assuming full implementation.

Impact of COVID-19 on Climate Change



Triple Challenges Facing Asia and the Global



Triple challenges

What are the roles of Forest, ... and AFoCO?



Implications for Regional Forest Cooperation



- The global challenges affect us all. Every nation has a stake and responsibility in addressing them.
- To confront a global problem, we need a **global solution**.
- And **regional cooperation** can mediate global and national mechanisms and generating more politically grounded problem solving mechanisms (Hettne and Soderbaum, 2006).

Annual Thematic Dialogue

An annual dialogue session and platform for forward-looking discussions that aims to:

1. Gather the collective interest of member parties and partners in order for AFoCO to successfully carry out its regional and global responsibilities
2. Engage diverse stakeholders in order to make the operations of AFoCO relevant to on-going policy processes and contexts in member countries

2021 Thematic Dialogue – Objectives

Theme of the 2021 session

“Roles of AFoCO in Unleashing the Full Potential of Forests to Meet Paris Climate Goals and Building Back Better and Greener from COVID-19”

1. Explore and discuss the potential roles of Asian forests and forest sector in global action on climate change and COVID-19 recovery
2. Collectively identify and prioritize actions to be delivered through AFoCO to make Asian forests more responsive to global call for actions; and
3. Showcase best practices and future directions of AFoCO to potential partners to prepare the ground for cooperative activities

2021 Thematic Dialogue – Program Overview

Time (KST)	Agenda/Presentation Topics	Session moderator
13:00 – 13:05	Opening Remarks	Mr. Lobzang Dorji President, Assembly
13:05 – 13:20	Introductory presentation: AFoCO in the Triple Challenges Facing Asia and the Globe	Mr. Ricardo Calderon, ED of AFoCO
<u>Session 1.</u> Roles of AFoCO in unleashing the full potential of forests to meet Paris climate goals and building back better and greener from the COVID-19		
13:20 – 13:40	Inspirational Speeches 1: “Making Asian forests and trees enhance resilience to climate change”	Mr. Alexandre Meybeck, CIFOR
13:40 – 14:00	Inspirational Speeches 2: “Lessons learned from the impact of COVID-19 on forest - why forests matter in post COVID-19 recovery”	Dr. Chandra Silori, RECOFTC
14:00 – 15:00	Moderated discussion (I)	Dr. Misun Park, SNU

2021 Thematic Dialogue – Program Overview

Time (KST)	Agenda/Presentation Topics	Session moderator
Session 2. Strategic Reflections on Selective Outputs of the 2021 Activities		
16:00 - 16:15	Presentation on the outputs of the “Assessment of AFoCO Project Impact and Best Practices” consultancy	Dr. Jürgen Blaser, Bern University
16:15 - 16:55	Moderated open discussion (II)	Mr. Chencho Norbu, Technical Advisor for AFoCO
16:55 - 17:10	Presentation on the outputs of the UNFF16 Side event on “Improvement on the GFGs Implementation: Streamlining forest-related reporting and developing methodologies for measuring the performance”	Dr. Lee Yeong-joo, AFoCO
17:10 - 17:50	Moderated open discussion (III)	Mr. Chencho Norbu
17:50 – 18:00	Closing remarks	Mr. Jin Sunpil, VED of AFoCO

AFoCO, as a formal regional cooperation body

Asian Forest Cooperation Organization (AFoCO) is a treaty-based intergovernmental organization, established upon the entry into force of a multilateral agreement on **27 April 2018**.

AFoCO aims to **strengthen regional forest cooperation by transforming proven technology and policies into concrete actions in the context of SFM to address the impacts of climate change.**

Our membership currently consists of 15 Asian countries are participating as **Parties (13 countries)** and **Observers (2 countries)**.



A greener Asia with resilient forests, landscapes, and communities

with a mission to

***strengthen cooperation in the forest sector and
promote action-oriented practices of sustainable forest management
through policy support, capacity development, and inclusive partnerships
to address the adverse impacts of climate change.***

Post-Dialogue Action Plan

Three Dimensions of Regional Cooperation

Network Expansion	Policy Decision Support	Capacity Building
- Public-Private partnership - Partnership with Universities and Organizations - Partnership with International Organization	- Political knowledge - Scientific Knowledge - Practical Implementation Knowledge	- Time to modify capacity building program - Assess the preferred and relevant competencies

Post-Dialogue Action Plan

- The need to **mobilize financial resources** to fully operationalize our strategic priorities is **EVIDENT**
- The need to **fully harness investments** from the private sector, public and private financial institutions is **APPARENT**
- The need to **develop capacities** at all level including the enhancement of our forestry institutions is a **MUST**

THANK YOU

<http://afocosec.org/>



Making Asian forests and trees enhance resilience to climate change

Alexandre Meybeck, CIFOR/FTA

AFoCO 2021 Annual Thematic Dialogue:

“Roles of AFoCO in Unleashing the Full Potential of Forests to Meet Paris Climate Goals and Building Back Better and Greener from the COVID-19” 25 October 2021



RESEARCH
PROGRAM ON
Forests, Trees and
Agroforestry



Outline

- 1) Why focus on adaptation?**
- 2) Adaptation of forests and trees**
- 3) Forests and trees for adaptation**
- 4) What is needed?**
- 5) What role for AFoCO?**

1) Why focus on adaptation?

The issue: The role of forests in the scientific and policy debate on climate change

Current paradigm

Mitigation

Adaptation of
forests to
climate change

Forests and
trees for
adaptation at
different
scales

New paradigm

Forests and trees for
adaptation at different
scales (FTA FP4-FP5)

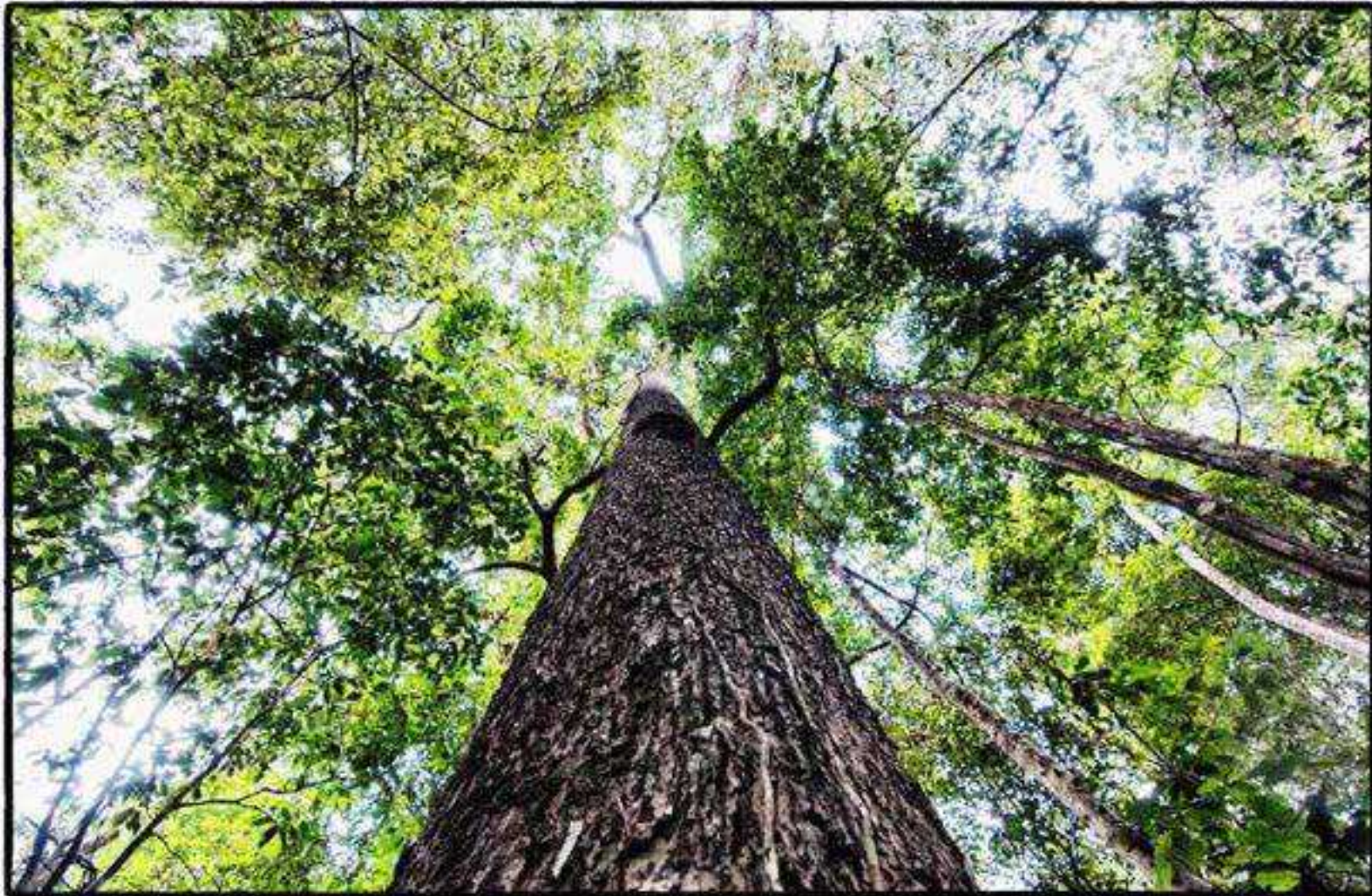
Adaptation of
forests to climate
change (feedback
mechanisms)

Mitigation

Why focus on adaptation?

- urgency for adaptation, climate is changing, for forests and trees need to think at least 30 years ahead
- easier to motivate actors on adaptation, for themselves and their community (than mitigation, global)
- Broader set of objectives and multiple factors, context dependent (than single carbon)
- more complex, knowledge intensive, requiring the engagement of multiple actors
- An entry point for climate action with multiple benefits: mitigation and other co-benefits: environment, social
- GCF needs to spend 50% on adaptation. Now also focus on co-benefits (mitigation and SDGs). One of the strong points of forestry

2) Adaptation of forests and trees



Brazil nut
tree,
Madre de
Dios, Peru

Adaptation of natural forests (NAPs)

- Monitoring and risk management systems:
 - Changes in ecosystems
 - Forest fires
 - Pests and diseases
- Research,
 - species of interest (commercial, threatened, invasive),
 - biological indicators of stress,
 - modeling effects on ecosystems
 - restoration
- Ecosystem based adaptation
- Maintaining forests in good health (biodiversity)
- Ensure connectivity

Adaptation of planted forests (NAPs)

- monitoring and risk management systems:
 - forest fires
 - Pests and diseases
- changes of planted species and varieties (and related changes in value chains)
- conservation and sustainable management of genetic resources
- anticipate future changes; for instance, use seeds coming from areas that are hotter or drier in order to have adult trees that will be adapted to the future climate.

Innovations for adaptation

- Monitoring



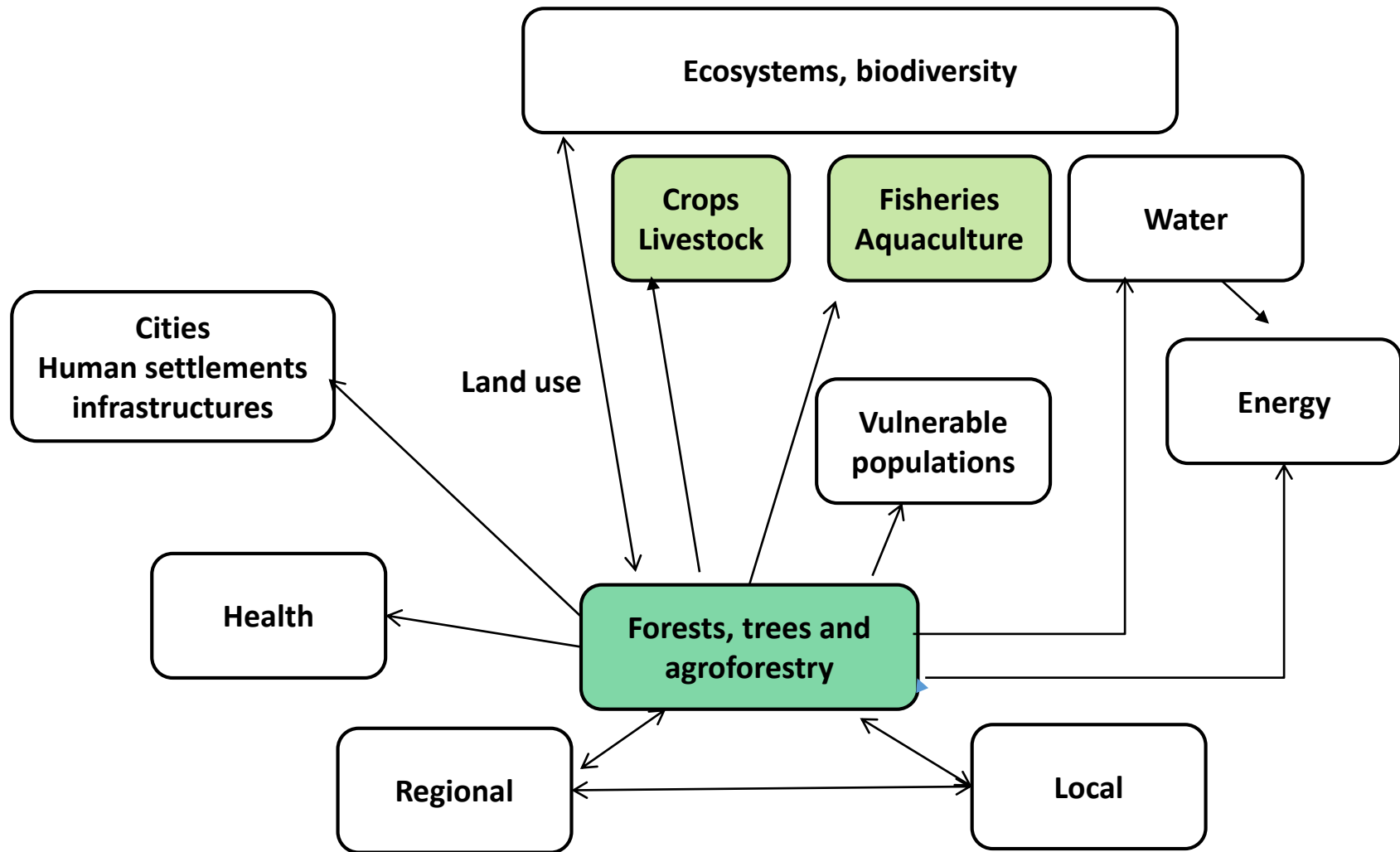
- Selection and breeding
- Social innovations
- Financial innovations

3) Forests and trees for adaptation



Mangrove Kubu Raya,
West Kalimantan,
Indonesia
Photo by Sigit Deni
Sasmito/CIFOR

Relations between «sectors»



What can forestry do for the adaptation of other sectors?

- Crops and livestock
- Fisheries and aquaculture
- Water
- Cities, human settlements, infrastructures
- Energy
- Health

Climate changes	Associated risks	Potential impacts on fisheries and aquaculture	Forest and tree-based solutions
Higher temperatures.	Evaporation	Less water available	Conserve and establish trees to provide shade along rivers, irrigation and water storage.
	Higher temperature of surface waters (rivers and lakes).	Fish mortality.	
More violent precipitations.	Increased erosion.	Degradation of fish spawning grounds. Degradation of water quality.	Conserve and develop forests in areas at the most risk of erosion.
	Floods.	Degradation of water quality.	Maintain and develop forest coverage in the water basin to facilitate infiltration in the soil and reduce running off.
Change of precipitations from snow to rain.	Changes in river flows; more variability in flows.	Floods “flushing” of spawning grounds.	
Sea level rise.	Mangroves at risk.	Degradation of habitat, critical for fish reproduction.	Protect and restore mangroves.

Meybeck et al. 2020

Planting trees for adaptation (NAPs)

1) **For natural resources management**, for instance to:

- restore degraded land,
- reduce soil erosion,
- restore water catchments,
- protect water tanks and rivers (against erosion and evaporation)
- reduce coastal erosion and protect against storms.

2) **In agriculture**, with:

- wind breaks,
- shade trees
- agroforestry in general.

3) **For the protection and greening of cities** to:

- reduce the urban heat island effect
- But need to manage increased fire risks.

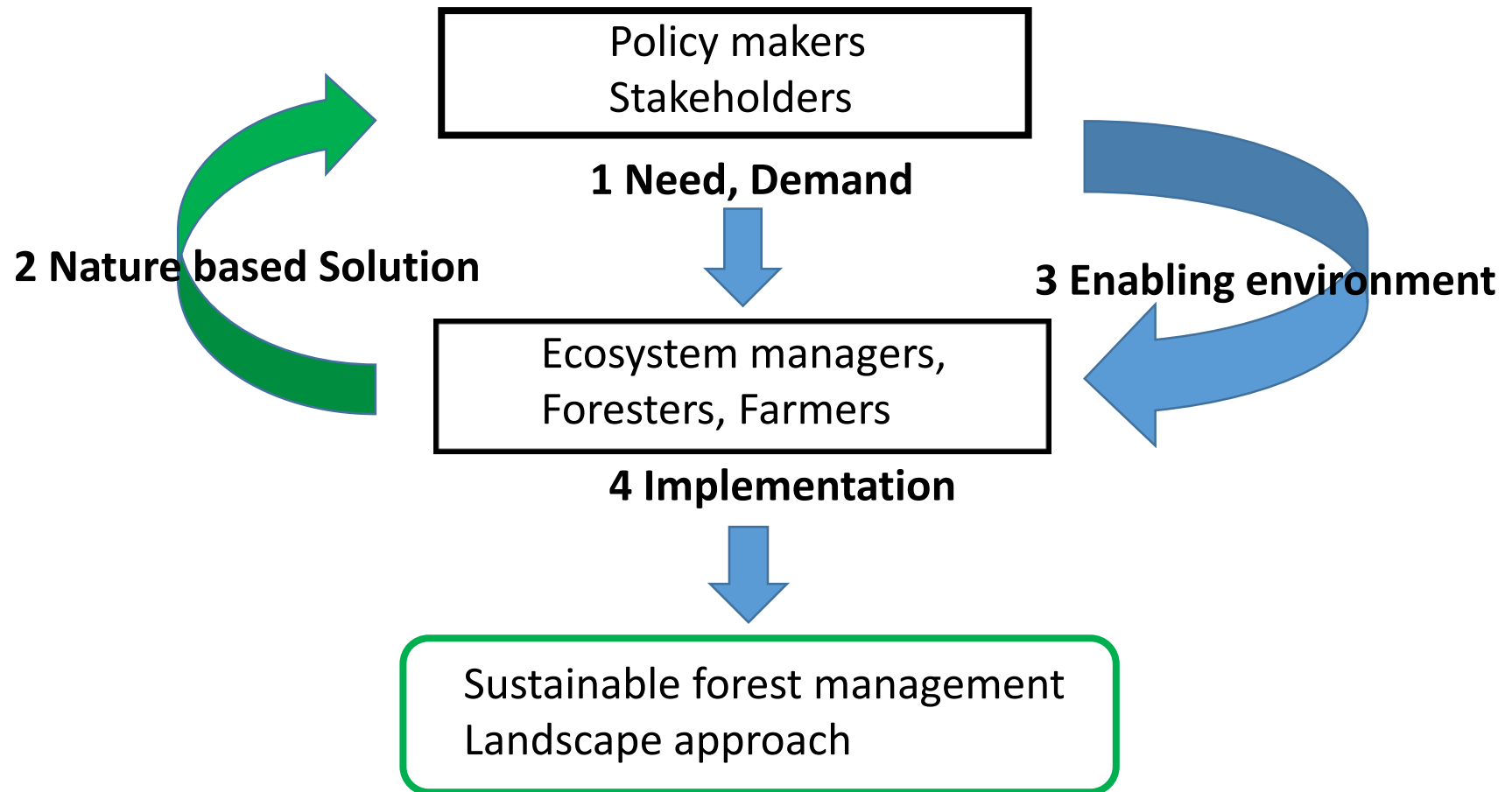


- Agroforestry (NAP Kiribati, many NDCs)
- Agroforestry policy India, Nepal,
- ASEAN Guidelines for Agroforestry Development

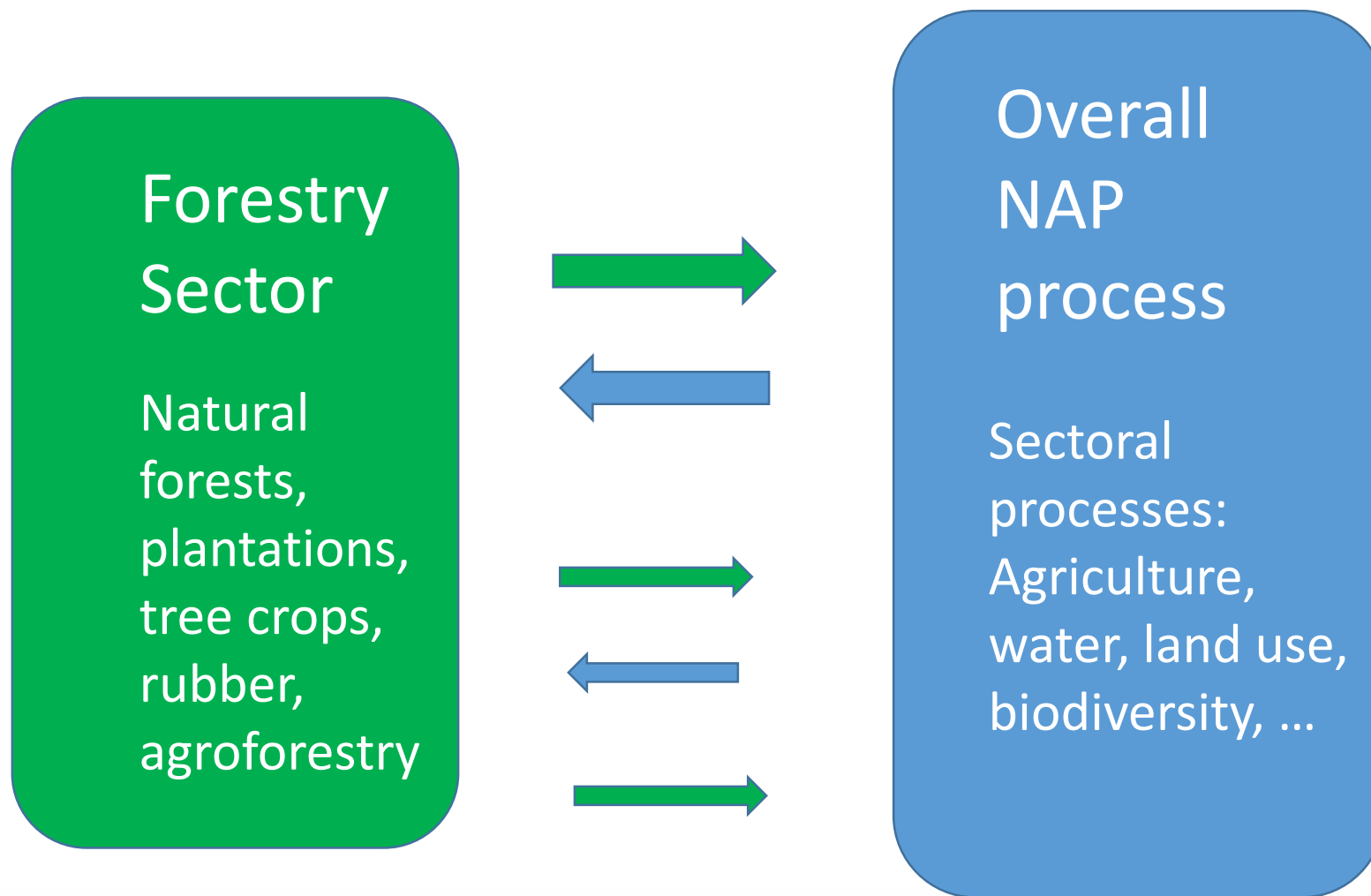


- Rubber, tea, cashew in Sri Lanka NAP: germplasm, management, pest monitoring, research, capacity development
- Rubber development for diversification, shade and socio-economic resilience

Nature Based Solutions: a four steps process



How to engage forestry in the NAP?



4) What is needed?

- Knowledge
- Enabling environment
- Capacity development

Knowledge

- The NAP process shall be “guided by best available science” (UNFCCC, decision 5/CP.17)
- Data, knowledge, information
- Research
- Costs and benefits of adaptation options
- Indicators of changes, of adaptation
- Importance of lessons learned
- Exchanges of information and knowledge to fill gaps
- Learn from regions already experiencing a situation or change that is expected in another region

Enabling environment

- **Policies**
- **Finance**
- **Governance**, including articulation of sectors, levels and transboundary issues (genetic resources, water management, biodiversity, risk management (fires, invasives, pests)...)
- **Planning:** NDC  NAP  **Projets**

Capacity development

- Capacity development one of the main expressed needs.
 - vulnerability analysis and climate risk assessments
 - inter-agency and cross-sectoral coordination
 - mainstreaming of climate change into policies and budgets
 - Awareness and knowledge exchanges
 - Research activities
- Knowledge and data gathering and transfer
- Technology transfer

5) What roles for AFoCO?

- Knowledge
- Capacity development
- Cooperation

Knowledge

- Facilitate exchanges of ideas, experiences and lessons learned
 - On technical issues, institutional arrangements, policies
- Identify priorities of its members, express demands to research
- Partner with scientific organizations, universities to
 - Gather data and knowledge
 - Fill knowledge gaps (costs and benefits, assesment of adaptation and co-benefits –mitigation and others)
 - Share evidence and knowledge (prepare or commission papers, workshops, on specific issues, ecosystems or measures; data base of measured impacts of cc and of measures, expériences, references,)
 - Identify indicators of change
 - Identify indicators of adaptation

Capacity development

- Organize, facilitate and support capacity building of different categories of actors, at different levels on different topics
- Organize and facilitate the creation of regional networks for sharing of knowledge and experiences
- Support countries in mainstreaming of adaptation and creation of related networks and institutions
- Support élaboration of plans
- Support and facilitate technology transfert and innovation

Cooperation

- Organize and facilitate cooperation among its members on adaptation related issues, for instance:
 - Collection and sharing of climate related data
 - Management of genetic resources
 - Management of water
 - Risk management, particularly of a transboundary nature (fire, invasives, pests and diseases)
 - Organization of value chains (adaptation, new value chains...)
- Facilitate the elaboration of common positions of its members on adaptation related issues

Some references

Addressing Forestry and Agroforestry in National Adaptation Plans. <https://doi.org/10.4060/cb1203en>

Climate Change Vulnerability Assessments of Forests and Forest Dependent People: A framework methodology. <https://doi.org/10.4060/CA7064EN>

Climate change guidelines for forest managers.
<http://www.fao.org/3/i3383e/i3383e.pdf>

<https://www.foresttreesagroforestry.org/>



<http://foreststreesagroforestry.org/>



RESEARCH
PROGRAM ON
Forests, Trees and
Agroforestry

The CGIAR Research Program on Forests, Trees and Agroforestry (FTA) is the world's largest research for development program to enhance the role of forests, trees and agroforestry in sustainable development and food security and to address climate change. CIFOR leads FTA in partnership with Bioversity International, CATIE, CIRAD, ICRAF, INBAR and TBI.



With support from the CGIAR Fund Donors:
<http://on.cgiar.org/CGIARFundDonors>



Why forests matter in post COVID-19 recovery?

Chandra Silori, Deputy Executive Director, RECOFTC
25 October 2021, Annual Thematic Dialogue, AFoCO





At RECOFTC,
we believe in a
future where
people live
equitably and
sustainably in
and beside
healthy,
resilient forests.

Context and study



The Research
was conducted in
partnership with



With support
from



FLOURISH



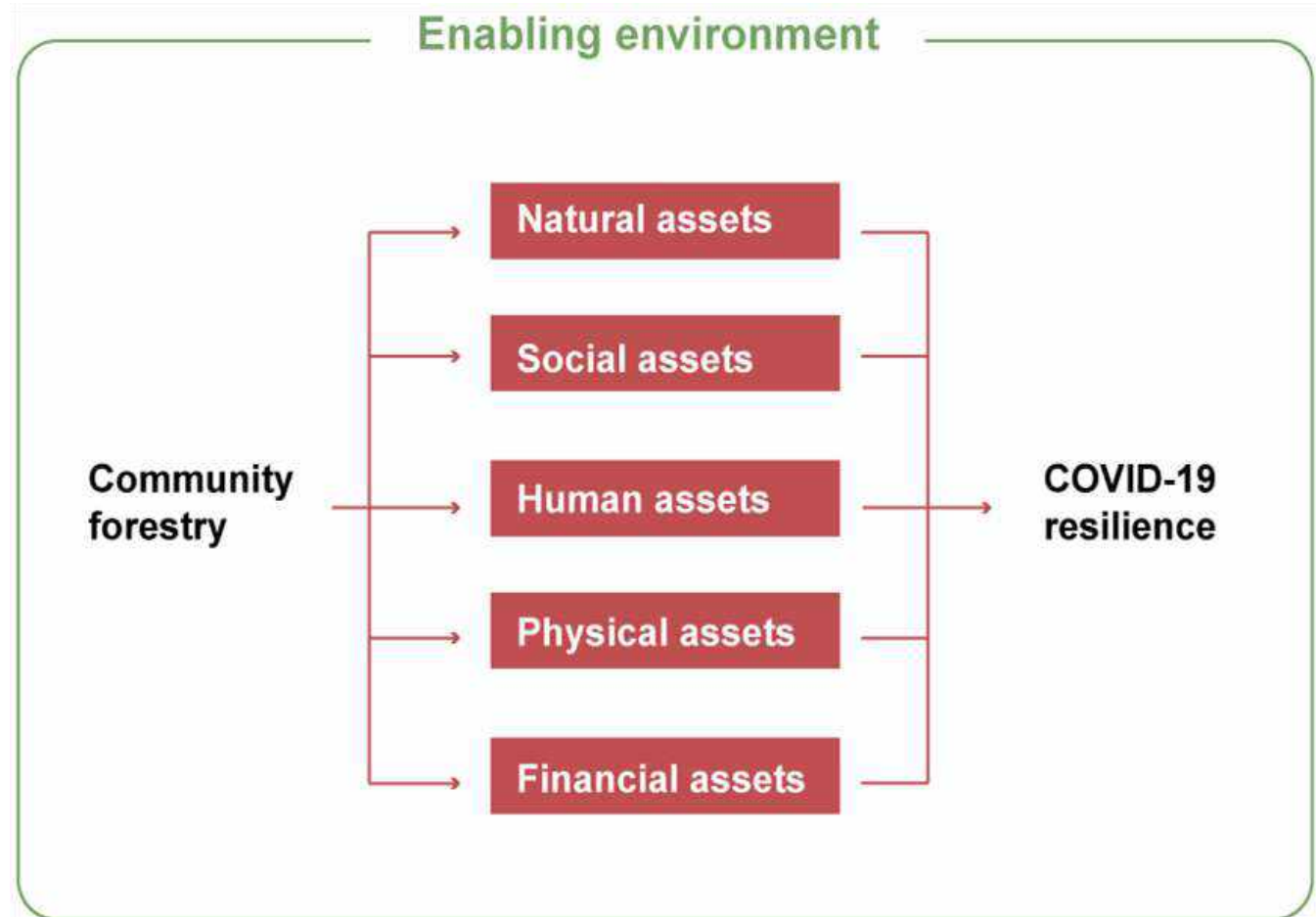
Voices Of
Working Forests



Context and study

- COVID-19 pandemic
- RECOFTC and FAO study
- Seven countries: Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Myanmar, Nepal, Thailand and Viet Nam
- Phase 1 survey: 435 people (July to August 2020)
- Phase 2 survey: 14 community forests (December 2020 to January 2021)
- Widespread impacts of pandemic on livelihoods

Hypothesis





COVID-19 Impacts

Impacts on local livelihoods

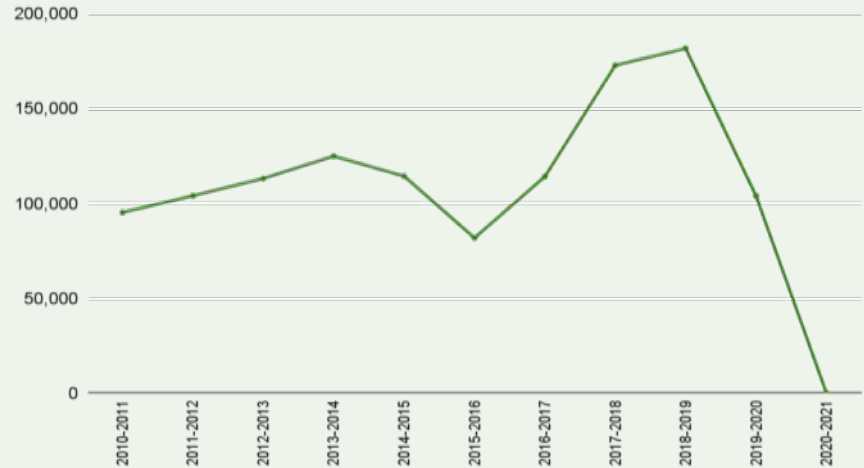
- Negative impact on the livelihoods of local communities
- Forests and forest-based products were critical resources and buffered negative impacts
- Forests filled gaps
 - Food and income
 - Space for refuge and network
- Secured access for people to use forests and collect products due to community forestry

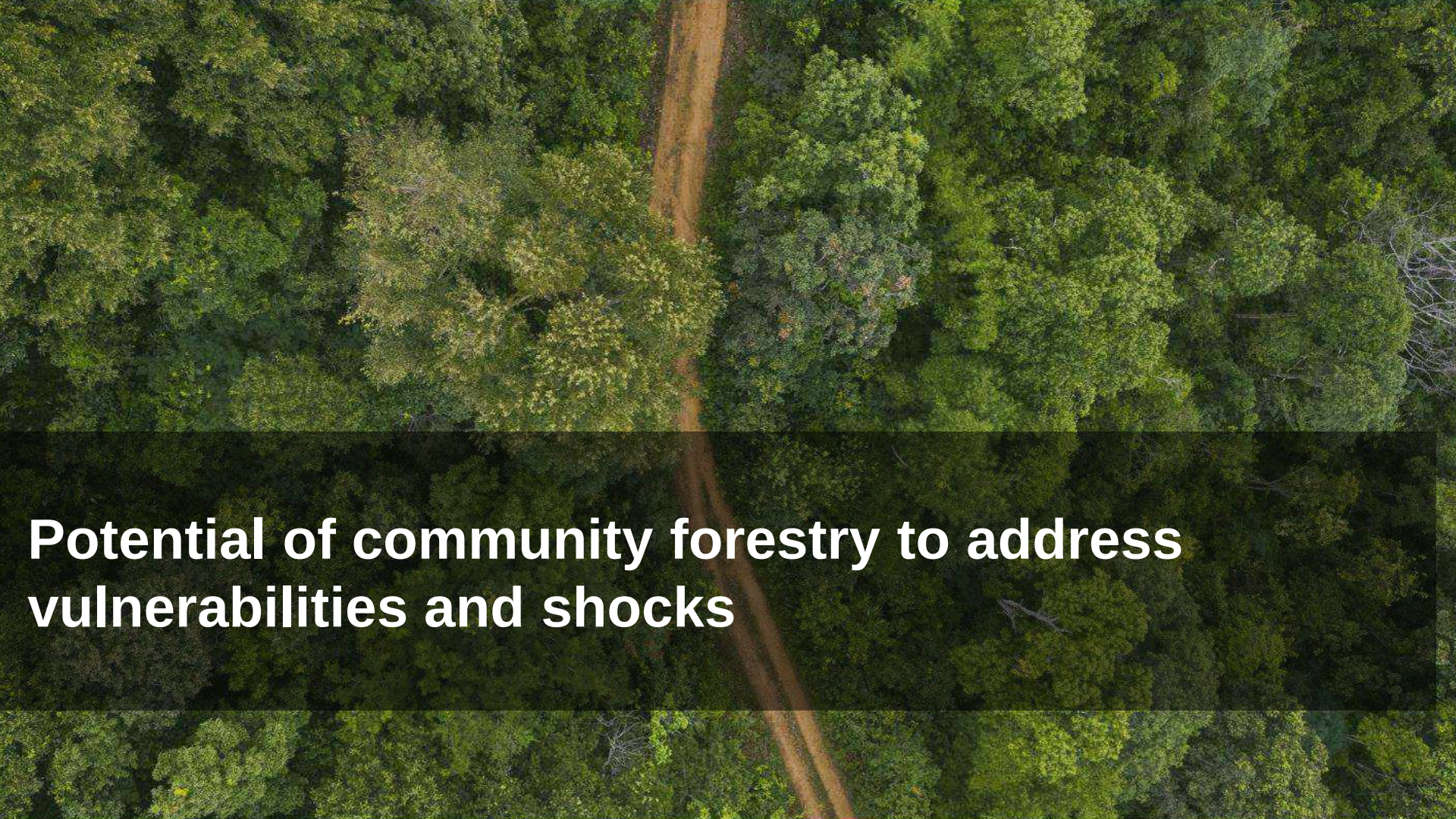


Most impacted forest communities

- Livelihoods of communities in eco-tourism sites such as protected areas, watershed areas, high-mountain areas were significantly affected
 - Sharp decline in number of tourists by 60-95%
- Lack of tourism and trade channels for timber and non-timber forest products were observed
- Informal workers without formal contracts and social protection mechanisms lost jobs and income

Number of tourists in Annapurna Conservation Area, Nepal





Potential of community forestry to address vulnerabilities and shocks

**Community forests
as centres of knowledge,
people power and
networks of support**



Community forests as centres of knowledge, people power and networks of support

- **Community forest committees**
 - Accessing / distributing COVID-19 information and PPE
 - Regulating access to forests
 - Organizing protection patrols
- **Community forest members**
 - Knowledge gained through experience and training
- **External relations**
 - Access to support from government, NGOs
 - Trade networks

Community forests as providers in a time of need



Community forests as providers in a time of need

- **Forest products for subsistence use or sale**
 - Wild food plants
 - Medicines
 - Materials
 - Firewood
 - Agroforestry crops
 - Timber (in some cases)

A person wearing a traditional conical hat and light-colored clothing is working in a dense forest. The forest is filled with numerous bamboo poles and lush green vegetation. The person appears to be engaged in a task, possibly related to forest management or agriculture. The overall scene conveys a sense of traditional labor in a natural setting.

Community forests as financial safety nets

Community forests as financial safety nets

- Income and savings: 3 million people in the lower Mekong countries
- Community forest funds
- Revolving credit schemes
- Payments for environmental services

Limiting and success factors



Limiting and success factors

- Tenure and rights
- Forest size and quality
- Community forest leadership
- External relations
- Access to training
- Capacity to manage funds

Implications for post- COVID recovery



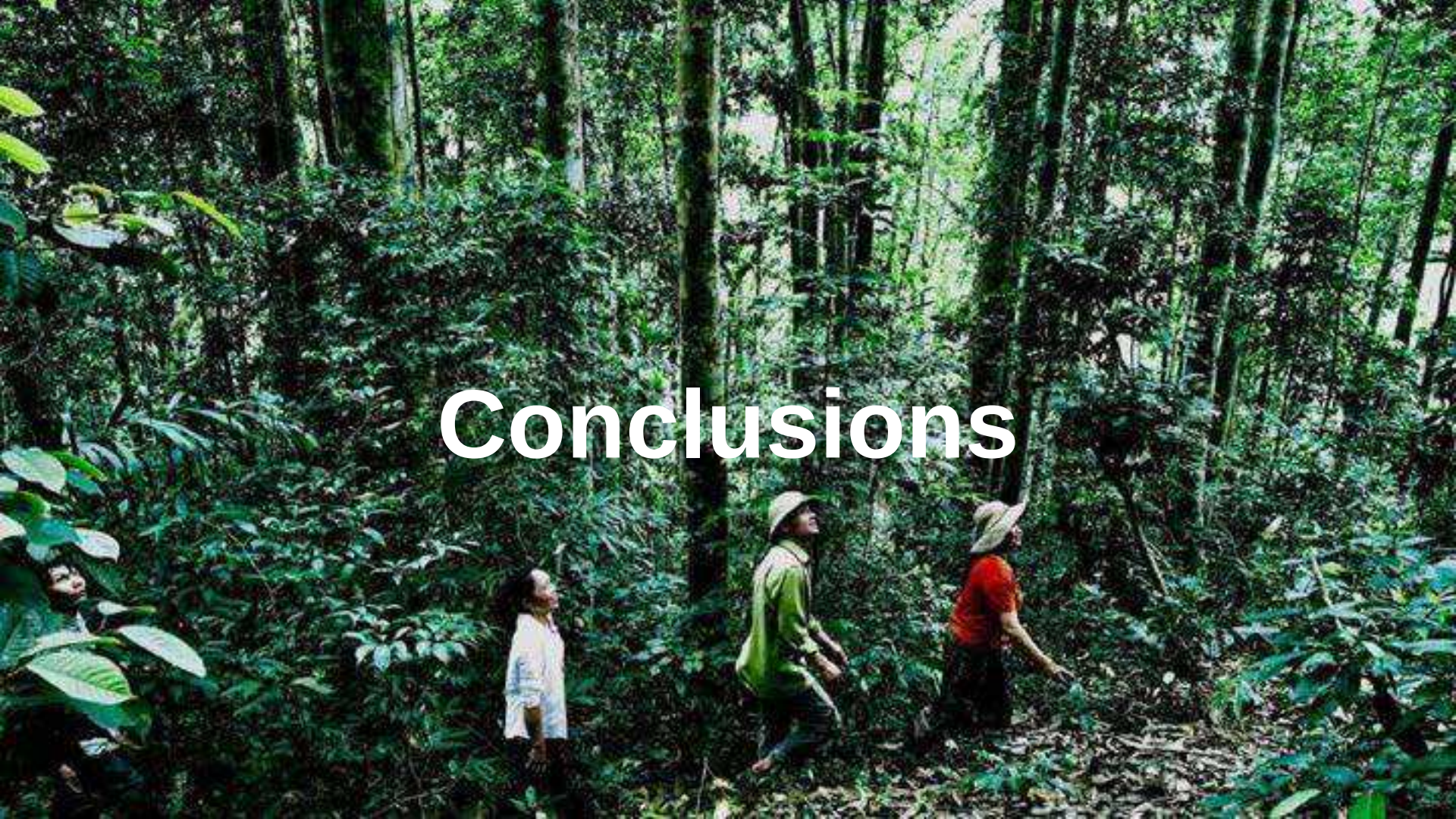
Implications for post-COVID recovery

- Expand community forestry
- Improve tenure and rights and promote community engagement
- Create and strengthen revolving credit schemes
- Strengthen forest protection patrols
- Provide training on livelihoods including agroforestry
- Include inclusive benefit sharing mechanisms into community forestry models

Implications for post-COVID recovery

- Adopt optimal landuse planning to integrate community forestry with forest landscape restoration
- Strengthen approaches to boost food security and nutrition
- Simplify process for communities' commercial use of forests and forest resources
- Embed social protection and inclusion measures within forest sector policies and planning

Conclusions



Conclusions

- Community forestry can boost resilience to shocks and improve livelihoods in the long term
- But only if the right conditions are in place
- Therefore, expand social, address gaps and replicate success factors

Thank you



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Special Report

How community forests boosted pandemic resilience across Asia-Pacific

Research in seven Asian countries reveals how community forests increased people's resilience to the COVID-19-induced restrictions and why recovery plans should strengthen community-based forest management.

June 2021

Read report



“Assessment of AFoCO Project Impact and Best Practices”



A review of 7 AFoCO projects to improve sustainable forest management in Southeast Asia

October 25, 2021



Consultants:
Jürgen Blaser
Ian Thompson
Mélanie Feurer

Background information

- AFoCO's **vision**: “A greener Asia with resilient forests, landscapes, and communities”
- **Mission**: “to strengthen cooperation in the forest sector and to promote action-oriented practices of sustainable forest management”
- AFoCO is a treaty-based organization with 13 member countries

The AFoCO work programme today

- (i) action-oriented implementation
- (ii) regional-based partnerships for the projects
- (iii) country driven project development, and
- (iv) provide training to forestry staff in AFoCO's member countries

Purpose of this programme review

→ A review of AFoCO's first experience on project work, implemented during the inception phase of AFoCO as an organisation

- assess and review 7 regional projects in SE-Asian AFoCO Member countries
- analyze best practices and lessons learned
- examine policy impacts
- indicate broadened possibilities for forest cooperation
- facilitate prioritized knowledge exchange activities
- identify opportunities for future project development

The seven projects reviewed



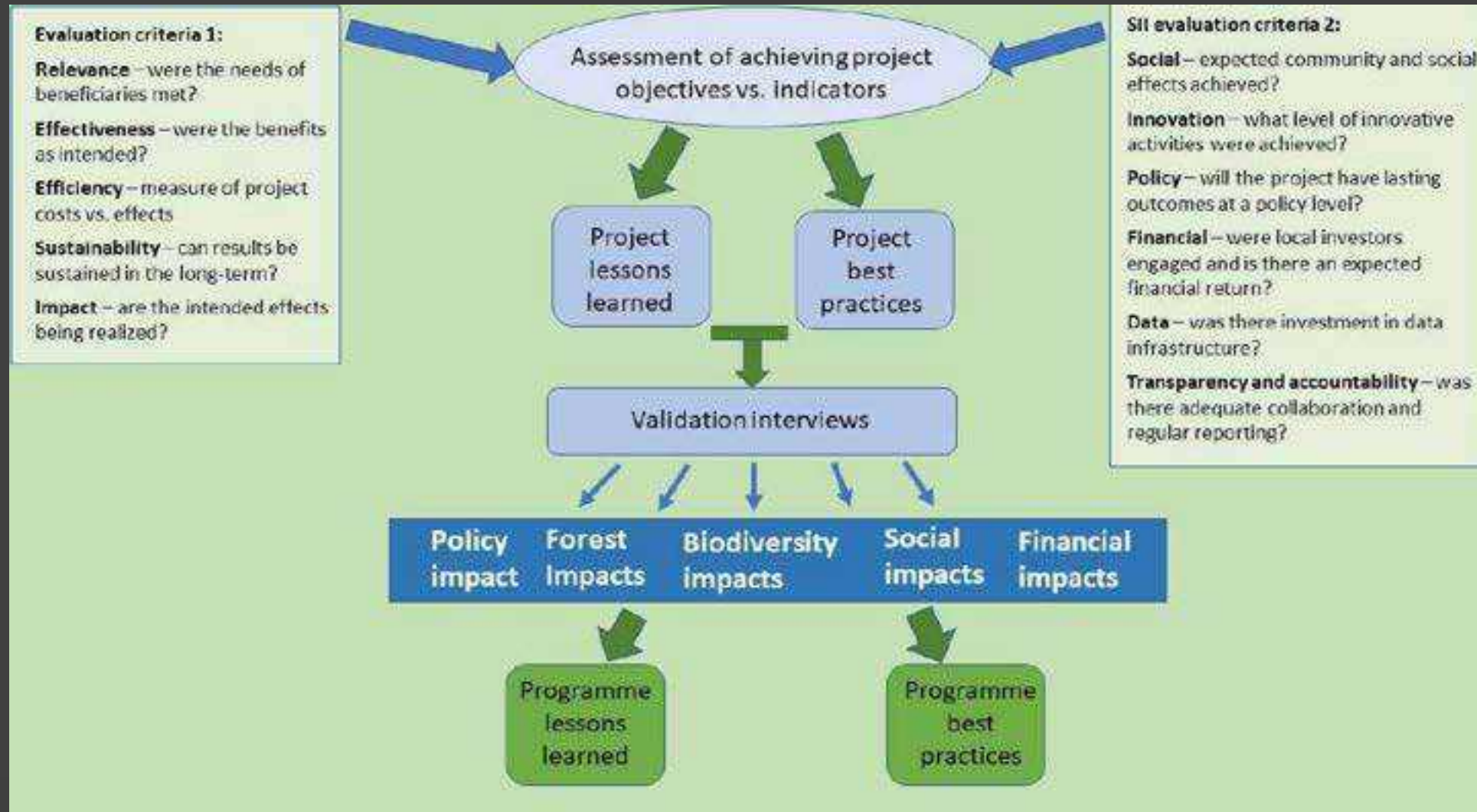
AFoCO project no.	Project title	Countries	Time period	Budget (US\$)
001	Reclamation, rehabilitation, and restoration of degraded forest ecosystems in Mekong Basin countries (MBCs)	Cambodia, Lao PDR, Thailand, Myanmar, Vietnam	2013-2015	AFoCO 500,000 National 302,770
002	Capacity building on improving Forest Resources Assessment (FRA) and enhancing involvement of local communities to address the impact of climate change	Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Myanmar, Philippines, Thailand, Vietnam	2013-2016	AFoCO 1,847,528 National N.A.
003	Promotion of forest rehabilitation in Cambodia and Vietnam through demonstration models and improvement of seed supply system	Cambodia, Vietnam	2014-2019	AFoCO 1,000,000 National 200,000
004	Facilitating the participatory planning of community-based forest management using GIS and RS technologies in forest resource management	Philippines, Indonesia, Thailand	2014-2020	AFoCO 1,500,000 National 14,640
009	Developing high value species in Vietnam and Thailand as a mechanism for SFM and livelihood improvement for local communities	Vietnam, Thailand	2015-2018	AFoCO 600,000 National 120,000
010	Domestication of endangered endemic and threatened plant species in disturbed terrestrial ecosystems	Malaysia, Thailand	2016-2022 (Ongoing)	AFoCO 1,200,000 National 4,093,919
011	Capacity building for landscape approach to support sustainable natural resources management	Brunei, Indonesia, Philippines, Singapore	2015-2019	AFoCO 539,726 Philippines 68,855 Others N.A.

→ Projects 001 and 002 evolved from a Korean/ASEAN Workshop in 2010, Project 003, 004, 009, 010, 011 from ASEAN-ROK Forest Cooperation Agreement (2012)

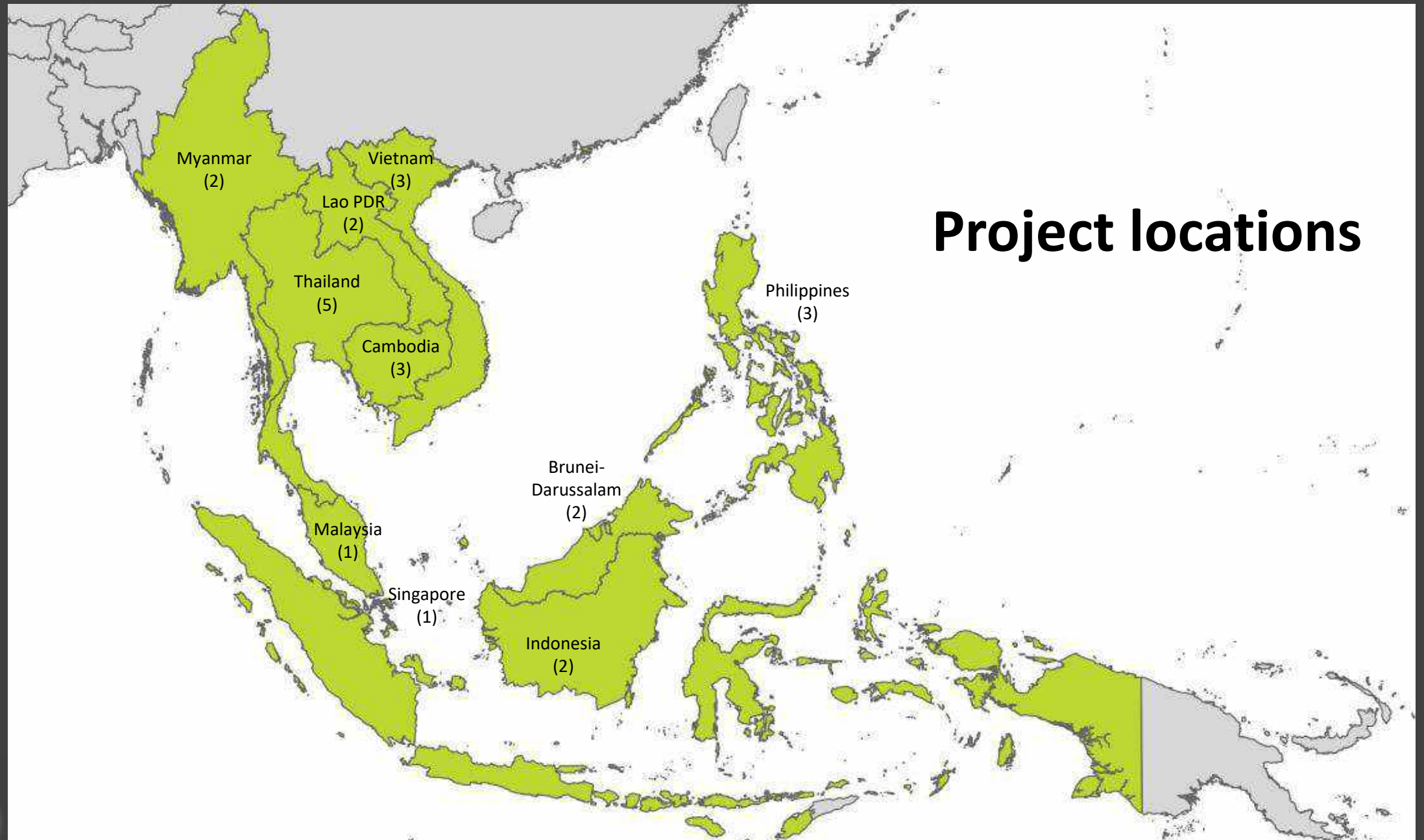
Individual review methods

Project Evaluation Criteria

Social Impact Investment Criteria



Project locations

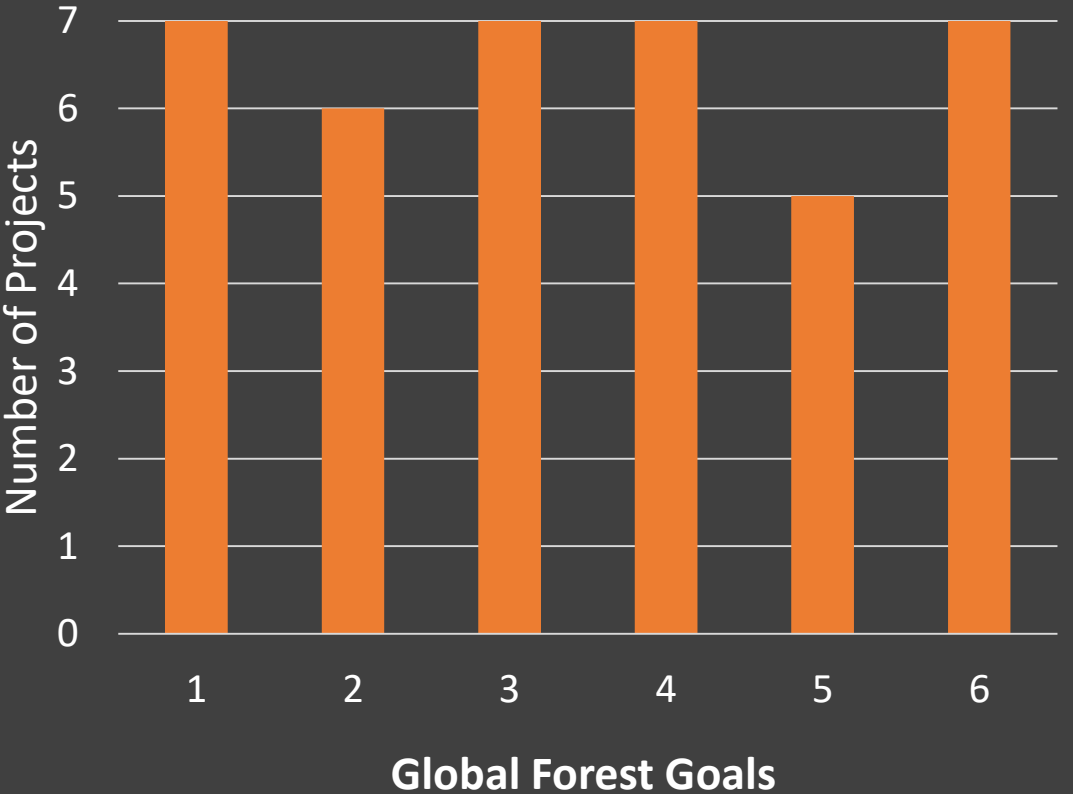
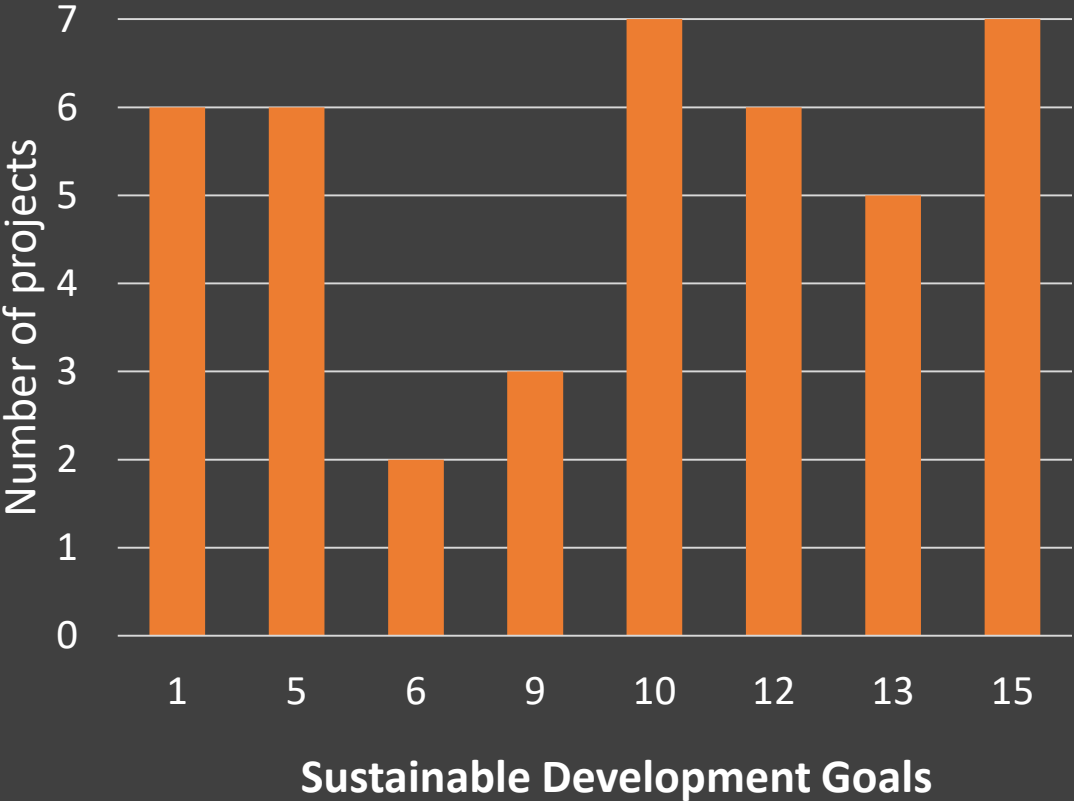


Individual project results

Projects dealt with several globally and regionally important forest issues:

- reforestation/restoration of degraded or deforested areas
- recovering of endangered forest types
- improved livelihoods and well-being for forest communities
- endangered species
- climate change adaptation
- improved forest management
- systematic forest data collection and reporting
- advanced use of technology in forest management

Contributions to global processes



Policy impacts (including examples)

- Projects all aligned with national policies
(Project 004: Brunei now has an GIS and FRA reporting division)
- Projects provided demonstration areas now used now as national reference and training sites
(Project 011 in Brunei, Indonesia, Philippines)
- Impact through CF guidelines and summary assessments
(Project 004 – CF guidelines produced were effective at policy level in several countries : Thailand, Indonesia, Philippines)
- Towards forest Landscape restoration
(Project 011 – especially effective in conveying the message of scaling up)
- Need for endangered tree species recovery – awareness at policy level
(Project 009 in Malaysia and Thailand worked with 38 tree species)



SFM impacts (including examples)

- Demonstration areas were effective tools
(Project 009 Vietnam/Thailand, Project 010 (Malaysia, Thailand))
- Improved use of data collection, GIS and remote sensing, computers and analysis software
(Project 002 - vastly improved FRA reporting in several countries)
- Training modules available from some projects
(Project 002 modules on remote sensing; Project 011 landscape management)
- Improved planting techniques and control of nuisance species
(Project 003 and 011 - control of *Imperata* spp., and use of direct seeding)
- Improved seed stock availability
(Projects 003 and 011 – use of local suppliers and training on improved seed quality)
- Important establishment of tissue culture labs in Cambodia and Vietnam
(Project 003 – resulting in vastly improved seed selection)



Social impact (including examples)

- Alternative livelihood development in 6 of the 7 projects
(New industries: bamboo products, seed production, and agroforestry)
- Improved capacity at CFs to manage their forests
(Projects 001, 002, 003, 004, 009, 011)
- Some CFs learned to use online marketing tools
(Project 003 provided online marketing training, e.g., Facebook as a tool)
- Most projects believe results will be maintained especially where local market analysis was completed
(Project 009 provided marketing guidelines)



Long-term impact requires future monitoring and possibly extra funding

Most important and consistently reported lessons (1)

1. Projects need a main focus and provide a logical framework with quantifiable targets [historic: today AFoCO has a project manual].
2. Communication among AFoCO, the regional manager, and the national managers needs to be frequent and regular.
3. Sustainable forest management projects ensure that the three legs of SFM – environment, social, and economic are equally considered.
4. Communities are pre-consulted prior to project implementation.
5. Training for local people, considering local needs, is a key element of success for livelihoods projects.

Most important and consistently reported lessons (2)

6. Exchange visits between countries were very effective learning tools
7. On-site decisions are a collective decision among project stakeholders.
8. Alternative livelihood projects require local consultation, feasibility studies, and market assurance
9. Due diligence and research for tree species selection is required to limit losses from poor ecological understanding, climate vulnerability, wildlife damage
10. A pre-defined exit strategy is needed for each project, and AFoCO should consider a strategy for long-term monitoring of the success of projects, especially for livelihood projects, to help ensure their sustainability

Most reported lessons at the regional coordination level



- Financing for projects was considered adequate by all projects
- Difficulties in moving funds among governments (lead country/partner countries) often resulting in delays in activities in countries
- There is both a reporting (especially financial) and administration burden on the regional project leaders
- Regional coordinators need management training for regional administration

Best practices (1)

1. Projects have a focus, with a logical framework providing quantifiable targets [all assessed projects were formulated before having an AFoCO project manual].
2. AFoCO, the regional project manager, and the national managers maintain communication.
3. Sustainable forest management projects include all three legs of SFM – environment, social, and economic are considered equally.
4. Communities are pre-consulted during the project development phase to support trust-building and better ownership.
5. Alternative livelihood projects consult local communities and conduct both feasibility studies and market assessments.
6. Training on alternative livelihoods is based on these studies and carried out in a second phase. This improves the adoption rate and long-term social impacts.

Best practices (2)

7. A schedule for regular monitoring, with procedures is built into projects.
8. Project proposals include an exit strategy.
9. A manual of operations will help to systematize actions at project sites .
10. Forest restoration projects select species appropriate to the sites involved, take measures to increase seedling survivorship, and ensure sufficient monitoring occurs to determine success.
11. Alternative livelihood projects include a component that describes how they will be sustainable.
12. On-site decisions are taken as a bottom-up collective process among the main project stakeholders, including women.

→ Many of these lessons learned from the initial project work evaluated in this study have already been internalized by AFoCO

Best practices – forest management



1. For seeding and nursery stock, select high-quality seeds from healthy trees that are growing well, to ensure improved survival and higher quality trees.
2. Recognize problems that can reduce seedling survival, such as invasion by grasses, fire, and wildlife damage; be prepared to mitigate these issues.
3. Direct seeding, where it is appropriate (protection measures), is a suitable method of forest restoration
4. Understand the ecology of the forest ecosystem prior to starting a restoration project, to ensure that the species are selected are suitable to site conditions.
5. Where local communities are involved, select species for which there is community knowledge, local use, and that are well understood by the local people.
6. Establishing local businesses, either as seed suppliers and/or nurseries, can assist forest restoration while providing alternative livelihoods.

Regional coordination: Suggestions to reduce workload for multi-lateral (regional) projects

1. AFoCO establishes a regional office/hub/link for projects involving 2 or more countries to coordinate administration issues
2. Projects with several countries involved might consider linking with an international or local non-governmental entity (NGO) to manage projects
3. A 6-month lead time is built into projects to enable training of the regional coordinator and for government financial processes to work

Conclusions

- Projects were well-designed, implemented well and were generally successful
- Successful training for use of advanced technologies for inventory and reporting
- Projects were well-positioned to create impact on policy, SFM, local communities, and/or improved sustainability of forest products
- Multi-country (regional) projects can be a valid approach besides bilateral projects
- Small contribution of equipment and training can result in large changes in sustainability of communities and create lasting positive effects on the forest



Future considerations

- Future areas for work (based on the assessment of the 7 projects):
 - **Thematically:**
 - Reforestation (a global priority) coupled with alternative livelihoods (as part of an FLR approach)
 - Consider a 'larger landscape approach' to help reverse land degradation
 - **Conceptually and organizationally:**
 - Continue the application of advanced technologies in SFM as ICT seems to be a special asset AFoCO can promote
 - Consider an applied research component where possible
 - When applying a multi-country approach: consider complementarity with other regional/international forest development programs



PRESENTATION

UNFF16 Side Event on “Improvement on the Global Forest Goals (GFGs) Implementation”

Dr. Yeong-joo Lee

Director, Planning and Budget Division

AFoCO engagement in the UNFF16

- AFoCO attended the 16th session of the UNFF which was held virtually from 26 to 29 April 2021, with a delegation headed by Executive Director Mr. Ricardo Calderon.
- Through its intervention, AFoCO shared the view with other participating state members and partners of the UNFF on destructive impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic to decades of unremitting efforts towards sustainable development, and jointly noted on key roles of the forest sector to play in building back better and greener.
- As a formal body, with a clear mandate of promoting sustainable forest management, AFoCO expressed its willingness and desire to bridge the gap between global processes and local actions, particularly in assisting the national implementation of the United Nations Strategy for Forest 2017-2030 (UNSPF).
- AFoCO through a joint side event organized with the National Institute of Forest Sciences (NIFoS) of the Republic of Korea, on 28 April 2021, explored its roles to contribute to the implementation of the UNSPF.

UNFF16 AFoCO-NIFoS Joint Side Event

- AFoCO and the National Institute of Forest Sciences (NIFoS) of the Republic of Korea, organized the UNFF Side Event on 28 April 2021 :
 - ✓ learn and share about the progress reported in the voluntary national reports of the Parties to the UNFF and global progress assessed in the flagship publication;
 - ✓ explore how the global core set of forest-related indicators supports reporting at the national level; and
 - ✓ share the relevance and potential of quantitative indicators as introduced by the Republic of Korea in measuring the implementation of GFGs.
- The side event led fruitful discussion on ways to improve the GFGs implementation, by streamlining forest-related reporting and developing a methodology for measuring performance
- The meeting was attended by country partners (Australia, Republic of Korea, Indonesia, and Thailand) and the members of Collaborative Partnership on Forests (CPF) (UNFF, Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)) as speakers and panel discussants.
- A total of 40 participants joined the 2-hour session, which was held in the form of a webinar.

MONITORING THE PROGRESS (methodology)

STEP 1: Review of Voluntary National Reports

Information provided from Voluntary National Reports (largely narrative & qualitative)

	UNFF9 (2010)	UNFF10 (2012)	UNFF11 (2014)	UNFF15 (2020)
Total submission	22	57	82	52
From AFoCO MC	1	4	4	4
	PH	MY*, MM, PH, VN	KH, MY*, MM, VN	MM, PH, KR, TH

*observers

STEP 2: Review on regional progress, using:

Draft global core set of forest-related indicators and available biophysical data sources (FAO Global Forest Resources Assessment 2020, etc.)

Information collected through a process of baselining of AFoCO country profile and contexts in forest sector

GFG 1: Reverse the loss of forest cover worldwide through SFM, including protection, restoration, afforestation and reforestation, and increase efforts to prevent forest degradation and contribute to the global effort of addressing climate change.

GFG 1	Indonesia	Korea, Republic of	Myanmar	Philippines	Thailand
Voluntary national contributions	To reduce deforestation from 0.92 Mha/year to 0.45 Mha in 2020 and 0.325 Mha by 2030. This is in line with the NDC in the framework of the Paris Agreement. <i>*Annual deforestation rate 2015-2020: 0.65 Mha/year (FAO, 2020)</i>	n/a	Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) of Myanmar targeted to increase reserve forest and protected public forest area up to 30%, and protected area up to 10% of total land areas.	n/a	To increase forest cover to 55% of the total country area, equivalent to forest area increase to 28.47 M ha (by 7.79 M-ha increase) under the 20-Year National Strategic Plan (2018-2037).
Progress	n/a	- Amendment of Carbon Sink Act - Amendment of Timber Use Act - Formulation of the first Comprehensive Plan for Improvement of Carbon Sinks (2015-2019) - Formulation of the second Comprehensive Plan for Improvement of Carbon Sinks (2019-2023)	- Promulgation of Forest Policy (1995), National Land Use Policy (2016), National Environmental Policy (2017), Climate Change Policy (2019), Wetland Policy (2019) - Enactment of Environmental Conservation Law (2012), Forest Law (2018),	- Executive Order No. 3184 (2004) to mainstream SFM into Philippine policies and programs - Executive Order No. 23 to protect the remaining natural forest, through a moratorium on all natural and residual forest	- During 2015-2019, total 147,514 ha of forests (degraded forests, economic forests, and mangrove) rehabilitated or newly established. - Provided planting materials and rendered financial resources for reforestation and REDD+ activities

Key observations:

- All countries integrated forest restoration targets into national-level development or climate strategy.
- All countries took policy actions to enhance forest carbon sink and two countries (MM, ID) invested in readiness actions for the REDD+.
- Technical and scientific actions were emphasized in adopting advance technologies in forest resources monitoring.
- Increasing flow of funding secured for SFM, from domestic public sources, international funding and private sector.

GFG 2: Enhance forest-based economic, social and environmental benefits, including by improving the livelihoods of forest dependent people.

GFG 2	Indonesia	Korea, Republic of	Myanmar	Philippines	Thailand
• Commitment	• To allocate 12.7 M ha for social forestry for the livelihoods of local communities.	• n/a	• To establish community forests up to 2.27 million acres by 2030	• n/a	• To enhance people's participation to support the sustainable utilization of forest resources
• Progress	• n/a	• Enactment and amendment of the Forest Welfare Promotion Act • Mountain village development project (2018-21) • Development of forestry-based economic companies through the Forest Job Creation Headquarters (2018-23) • Forest welfare promotion plan (2018-22) • Forest welfare statistics/information	• Promulgation of Community Forestry Instructions (2016 & 2019) and Community Forestry Strategy Action Plan (2018-2020) • Adoption and application of ASEAN Guidelines on Agroforestry Development (2019) • Myanmar Reforestation and Rehabilitation Programme (MRPP) targets to establish	• Executive Order 318 issued in 2004 provides six guiding principles, and two of which are directly relevant to goal 2 – community-based forest conservation and development; and incentives for enhancing private investments, economic contribution and global competitiveness of forest-based industries	• 2019 Community Forestry Act has been enacted to support alternative community forest activities • A policy established to allocate former forest reserve to landless farmers and poor households for subsistence. (0.624 M ha by 2023) • National Parks Act amended (2019) to

Key observations:

- In most countries, Community Forestry has been promoted as a means for enhancing socio-economic benefits of forests and strengthening ecosystem services.
- Job creation has been significantly recognized in multiple major programs, including national forest rehabilitation program, CF or CBFM, and economic forest plantation projects.
- Technical and financial supports were provided to forest production and trade sub-sector, to promote sustainable forest production and economic activities.
- All countries formulated/enhanced legislative framework to increase the areas of designated PAs.

GFG 3: Increase significantly the area of protected forests worldwide and other areas of sustainably managed forests, as well as the proportion of forest products from sustainably managed forests

GFG 3	Indonesia	Korea, Republic of	Myanmar	Philippines	Thailand
Commitment	To encourage business sector to obtain Sustainable Production Forest Management Certificate and also a Timber Legality Verification System Certificate for sustainable management of forests and forest products.	n/a	To establish 148,627 ha of state-owned forest plantations; 115,427 ha of private plantations; conduct 331,392 ha of ANR in the Production Forests; conserve 202,429 ha of natural forests in Central Dry Zone; establish 311,875 ha of CF, extend reservation of 1,610 square mile (6.19 5% of country area)	n/a	In achieving 55% forest cover target under the 20-Year National Strategic Plan (2018-2037), 25% to be classified as protected area
Progress	n/a	- Formulation of the 2nd National Protection Plan on Baekdudaegan (2016-25) - Ecological rehabilitation project for damaged/disconnected forests (Stage 1: 2016 -22, Stage 2: 2023-30) - Peace Forest Initiative (2019~)	- Promulgation of Forest Policy (1995), National Land Use Policy (2016), National Environmental Policy (2017), and National Wetland Policy (2019) - Enactment of Forest Law (2018), Conservation of Biodiversity and Protected Areas Law (2018) and Policy (2018)	National Integrated Protected Areas System Act of 1992 established a system of administration of all designated PAs and it was further expanded through the enactment of Republic Act No. 11038 in 2018. The Philippines also designates	- Under the sustainable forest plantation management scheme, 10% of forest plantation area (18,400 ha) has been reserved for biodiversity conservation. - Pas under the management of National Park Wildlife and Plant Conservation

Key observations:

- Increasing areas legislated as protected areas
- Significant areas were designated or declared for conservation purposes, with strong support from the legislative frameworks established
- Most countries have launched its actions to enhance timber legality and institutionalize the forest certification system.
- Two countries (PH, TH) could include in their reporting progress made in all relevant ministries/agencies.

GFG 4: Mobilize significantly increased, new and additional financial resources from all sources for the implementation of SFM and strengthen scientific and technical cooperation and partnerships

GFG 4	Indonesia	Korea, Republic of	Myanmar	Philippines	Thailand
Commitment	To promote financing for small and medium enterprises in the forestry sector through "Badan Layanan Umum" (Public Service Agency) with various schemes, including loans, profit sharing, syaria'h, for off-farming and on-farming activities.	n/a	MRRP and RNH demonstrate strong commitments of Myanmar government to achieve goal 4	n/a	n/a
Progress	n/a	Supported forest restoration projects in six Asian countries were supported through KFC-AF-GO Green Asia Initiative	The Government of Myanmar has been implementing Myanmar Rehabilitation and Reforestation Program (MRRP) from	The Government put efforts to increase financial allocation to support forest-based activities through annual budget planning	Forest Industry Organization (FIO), state-owned organization, received government support to establish economic forest

Key observations:

- Funding for the implementation of SFM was increased in all four countries, while they are situated with different positions in international cooperation (donors/recipients).
- Most reporting countries reported to have financing strategies to achieve SFM and implement UN forest instrument.
- Differentiated set of questions may be provided for donor countries to highlight their annual contributions to international partners (ODA flow to forest sector).
- All four reporting countries have been engaged in international cooperation, mainly with governmental or intergovernmental partners. The most common types of cooperation are North-South, followed by technical and financial cooperation, but limited South-South or Triangular cooperation.

GFG 5: Promote governance frameworks to implement SFM, including through the UN Forest Instrument, and enhance the contribution of forests to the 2030 Agenda

GFG 5	Indonesia	Korea, Republic of	Myanmar	Philippines	Thailand
Commitment	- To encourage the interaction of the forestry sector in planning systems such as through the National Forestry Council (DKN) to provide policy recommendations; - To continue implementation of a gender mainstreaming policy, which involves women in the development of the forestry sector.	n/a	n/a	n/a	To strengthen the policy and legislative framework for the forest sector.

Pro

Key observations:

- All reporting countries have integrated forests in either national sustainable development plan and/or poverty reduction strategies.
- Cross-sectoral coordination mechanisms is comparably well established among government agencies in SFM planning and implementation, while in a certain country the forest-sector is not observed to be fully involved in other land-use planning
- Most countries have identified and established mechanisms to engage multiple stakeholders in SFM planning and implementation, but with varying level and depth.
- Measures were taken in all reporting countries to prevent and reduce illegal logging and trade, most commonly managed through legal enforcement, import/export control

GFG 6: Enhance cooperation, coordination, coherence and synergies on forest-related issues at all levels, including within the UN System and across CPF member organizations, as well as across sectors and relevant stakeholders

GFG 6	Indonesia	Korea, Republic of	Myanmar	Philippines	Thailand
Commitment	n/a	n/a	To establish 148,627 ha of state-owned forest plantations; 115,427 ha of private plantations; conduct 331,392 ha of ANR in the Production Forests; conserve 202,429 ha of natural forests in Central Dry Zone; establish 311,875 ha of CF, extend reservation of 1,610 square mile (6.19 5% of country area)	n/a	n/a

Pro

Key observations:

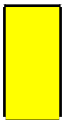
- National voluntary contributions established for goal 6 has varying appreciation at the national level.
- All reporting countries have established C&I for SFM to generate information for national reports; monitor forest state; review forest policies and tools; and respond to the reporting requirement of international organizations. Only half of the reporting countries have utilized the C&I for the communication and awareness raising purposes.
- Most countries were actively reaching out to the public and major groups and generating greater awareness on SFM.
- Limited information was provided in terms of coordination mechanisms established in each country that enhance synergies among international partners.

Challenges in achieving Global Forest Goals

	GFG1	GFG2	GFG3	GFG4	GFG5	GFG6
KR	Forest acreage is decreasing and is expected to continue due to continued expansion of infrastructure and housing demand, which poses challenges in contributing to the goal of increasing forest area by 3% worldwide.	Since the number of mountain village residents and forestry workers and the proportion that forestry accounts for within the total GDP are insignificant relative to the overall national economic status, difficulties are found in quantifying forest-based social, economic, and environmental benefits.	It was difficult to differentiate and present implementation and progression of associated goals with similar concepts, such as SFM, long-term forest management plan, and forests managed by sustainable methods.	Forest sector, which require long-term investment and considered to have low cost-effectiveness, is often situated in low priority in international development cooperation.	n/a	n/a
MM	- Limited financial resources - Capacity needs in sustainable forest management	- Limited awareness on CF and CFE - Limited access to market for non-timber forest	Limited human resources for the gazettelement of Permanent Forest Estate (PFE)	Limited supports rendered in long term. Short-term, project-based supports prevails. Long-term	n/a	n/a
PH	- Demographic and developmental pressures on forest lands and conflict in land use - Weak coordination among relevant agencies and stakeholders	- Limited value addition and profitability of forest products - Limited access to market and financial opportunities for local forest communities and forest smallholders	- Limited human resources and institutional capacities in implementing the relevant policies - Insufficient coherence between relevant policies and legislations across sectors	- Earning buy-in of donors or private investors in forest-based activities - Limited experience and capacities in marketing and financing forest-based activities	n/a	n/a
TH	- Overlapping authorities among different organizations - Policy inconsistency and political instability - Increasing pressure on forest lands from population growth, contract farming, infrastructure development, etc. - Technical and financial assistance from international partners are required to ensure consistent efforts for the goal	- Low profitability of forest products compared to other commodity crop - Illegal logging and trade - Limited financial incentives for promoting forest-based benefits - Promoting PPP	Strengthening institutional capacity and public awareness to enhance implementation of relevant policies	- Integrating forest financing schemes in national development strategy and its associated operational frameworks - aligning resource requirements to partner agencies' priorities and coping with procedural requirements - defining relevant measures and standards of performance and accountability in compliance with the donors' request	n/a	n/a

Progress review, using FRA 2020/FAO & NDCs

No	Indicators	GFG Targets	BT	BN	KH	ID	KZ	KR	LA	MN	MM	PH	TH	TL	VN	SG*	MY*	AFoCO	Asia	Global
1	Forest area net change 2015-2020 (%)	1.1 Forest area is increased by 3% worldwide	+	C	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	+	-	-	-2.08	+1.07	-0.61
2	Aboveground forest carbon stock change 2015-2020 (tons per ha)	1.2 The world's forest carbon stocks are maintained and enhanced.	C	C	C	C	-	+	C	C	-	-	-	C	+	+	-	6	-116	-747
3	Integration of forest targets and measures in NDCs to Paris Agreement	2.5 The contribution of all types of forests to biodiversity conservation and climate change mitigation and adaptation is enhanced	o	o	o	o	x	x	o	o	o	x	x	o	o	o	o	11		
4	Proportion of forest area within protected areas (%)	3.1 The area of forests worldwide designated as protected areas.	29.0	3.6	17.8	27.6	0.4	4.5	n/a	1.9	8.0	6.8	n/a	n/a	7.0	4.7	10.5	8.35	4.39	5.38
5	Proportion of forest area with long-term forest management plan (%)	3.2 The area of forests under long-term forest management plans is significantly increased.	9.65	n/a	n/a	11.8	1.3	25.6	n/a	9.1	42.7	4.3	n/a	n/a	22.6	n/a	32.3	10.16	11.37	15.51

	:	Net positive (+) change, or Above aggregate means of AFoCO, Asia, and Global		:	Constant, or Within the range of aggregate means of AFoCO, Asia, and Global		:	Net negative (-) change, or Below aggregate means of AFoCO, Asia, and Global
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*observers

Key Take-away Messages

- The voluntary national reporting (of the UNFF) is one of main sources of information to assess the progress and achievement of the UNSPF and its contribution to sustainable development goal. However, there were some challenges observed in the submission of the voluntary national report among the 166 member countries of the UNFF. Looking back as far as the submission of the voluntary reports under UNFF9 (2010) with 22 members' submission, 57 members' submission in UNFF10, 82 members' submission in UNFF11 (2014) and 52 member countries' submission in UNFF15 (2020).
- At the regional level, among 13 AFoCO Member parties only four (4) countries submitted their voluntary national reports in 2020. Plenty of needs and opportunities were observed in enhancing the AFoCO member countries in monitoring, assessment, and reporting of the progress on the implementation of the UNSPF.
- Given that AFoCO's mandates and strategic objectives are highly aligned to the implementation of the UNSPF, AFoCO may support its Member Countries in acquiring needed capacities to monitor and report on the progress of the implementation of the UNSPF and collaborate with the Forum and the network of the CPF in enhancing coordination and coherence on forest-related issues at the regional level.

Potential roles of AFoCO in UNSPF implementation

- 1. ANNUAL THEMATIC DIALOGUE OF THE AFoCO ASSEMBLY to assist MONITORING of the PROGRESS of the UNSPF
- 2. REGIONAL and COUNTRY PROJECTS as PLATFORM for EXCHANGE of EXPERTISE and TECHNICAL COOPERATION
- 3. CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS at the REGIONAL EDUCATION and TRAINING CENTER
- 4. FACILITATE ACCESS of MEMBER PARTIES to DIVERSE SOURCES of FUNDING (e.g. GCF)
- 5. BEYOND THE FOREST SECTOR (e.g. LPA)
- 6. INCREASE COORDINATION with REGIONAL and INTERNATIONAL (e.g. UN conventions, fora and agencies, CIFOR-ICRAFT, INBAR, APFNet, ITTO)

Guiding Questions for Discussion

1. What will be the potential role/contribution of international organizations like AFoCO to national reporting and complementing assessment of GFG implementation?
2. How can the measurement/reporting of implementation of GFGs be improved on the ground? (such as informal dialogues)
3. What are the experiences and efforts of your country in the development of the national reports? And what are the challenges confronting the countries in the process?
4. What are the possible methodologies or partnership that AFoCO can consider to enhance national or corresponding agency's systems to track and report on progress of GFGs, including tools to improve disaggregated data and information? (i.e. national statistics, Forest Resources Assessment of the FAO, global core set of forest-related indicators of the CPF, etc.)