

SUSTAINABLE FOREST MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK STRATEGY FOR GEF-4

I. INTRODUCTION

1. This brochure presents the framework strategy for sustainable forest management for GEF-4 (2007 – 2010), approved by the GEF Council in September 2007.
2. At the replenishment of the GEF Trust Fund in 2006, the GEF Council requested the GEF Secretariat to review and revise as necessary the strategies for the six focal areas of the GEF, taking into account issues such as sustainable forest management and sound chemicals management.¹
3. In December 2006, the CEO presented to the Council a plan to increase the efficiency and impact of the GEF. A central element of this reform package is to move away from the previous single project interventions towards a more programmatic focus for the GEF. The purpose is two-fold: a) to focus the limited funding resources of GEF-4 on a set of priority issues of global environmental concern; and b) to link projects together to achieve stronger impacts.
4. The framework strategy for sustainable forest management presented here is the result of a consultative process involving external advisory groups and contributions from the GEF Council Members, Convention secretariats, GEF agencies, the Scientific and Technical Advisory Panel (STAP) and other GEF partners².
5. The strategy builds on previous GEF achievements and experience within sustainable forest management. The goal of GEF investments in sustainable forest management (SFM) is to maintain and enhance the economic, social and environmental values of all types of forests, for the benefit of present and future generations. SFM is a broad concept, referring to the conservation and appropriate use of forests and trees to sustain livelihoods, including; conservation of biological diversity; prevention, control and reversal of land degradation; using trees and forest cover to combat desertification and mitigate or adapt to climate change; and the sustainable production of wood and non-wood forest products and services.
6. SFM has the potential to address the objectives of at least three GEF focal areas (biodiversity, climate change and land degradation) and will be addressed through a programmatic approach. As a step towards a more programmatic approach, strategic programs have been developed in support of the long term objectives. These strategic programs define the GEF's focus during GEF-4. The strategic programs have been selected and defined in view of their importance, urgency and cost-effectiveness from a global environment perspective. Priorities identified by countries, as well as overall guidance from the multilateral environmental agreements and conventions have also been taken into consideration. The strategic programs

¹ GEF/R.4/32: Policy recommendations for the Fourth Replenishment of the GEF Trust Fund.

² working documents and comments received from GEF partners are accessible at the GEF website www.thegef.org under GEF policies.

provide an intermediate link between the project level and the long term objectives of the GEF within the focal areas. The SFM strategy will be implemented through various strategic programs identified in the focal areas biodiversity, land degradation and climate change. These strategic programs identify priority areas for GEF investment in SFM that are consistent with the GEF mandate to generate global environmental benefits. They aim to identify where progress towards SFM would make the greatest contribution to achieving the objectives in these three focal areas.

7. The long term objectives and strategic programs that are redefined for every replenishment period replace the previous structure of operational programs and strategic priorities. The new structure, summarized for the sustainable forest management cross-cutting area in the table below, balances continuity and flexibility and supports the emphasis on results.

Table 1: Long term objectives and strategic programs for Sustainable Forest Management in GEF-4

Long-term Objectives	Strategic Programs for GEF-4
<p>1: To conserve and sustainably use forest biodiversity</p> <p>2: To promote sustainable management and use of forest resources</p>	<p>1. Sustainable financing of protected area systems at national level (same as BD#1)</p> <p>2. Strengthening terrestrial protected area networks (same as BD#3)</p> <p>3. Management of LULUCF as a means to protect carbon stocks and reduce GHG emissions (cross-cutting BD/LD)</p> <p>4. Strengthening the policy and regulatory framework for mainstreaming biodiversity (same as BD#4)</p> <p>5. Fostering markets for biodiversity goods and services (same as BD#5)</p> <p>6. Promoting sustainable energy production from biomass (same as CC#4)</p> <p>7. Supporting sustainable forest management in productive landscapes (same as LD#2)</p>

8. The strategy for is aligned with the Results Based Management (RBM) framework for the GEF, in order to direct the strategies towards tangible global environmental benefits and to enable adequate reporting on the implementation of the strategies. Long-term expected *impacts* on the global environment are assigned to each of the objectives, and intermediate expected *outcomes* are assigned to each of the strategic programs. The projects are thus expected to support the achievement of the impacts and outcomes identified at the programmatic level.

9. Provisional indicators have been identified for each expected outcome. These indicators will allow a systematic monitoring of the actual achievement of the expected impacts and outcomes. The indicators will be further developed in connection with the Results Based Management for the GEF.

10. The framework strategy for sustainable forest management presented here seeks to guide project proponents in countries and in GEF agencies and other GEF partners in preparing and reviewing project proposals for GEF-4. The GEF Secretariat will initiate the development of

long term objectives and strategic programs for GEF-5 in 2008 with a view to presenting proposed strategic programming for GEF-5 to the GEF Council at its first meeting in 2009.

I. BACKGROUND

1. The Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) and the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) all emphasize the importance of the conservation, sustainable use, and management of forests in achieving their respective objectives.

2. The CBD work program on Forest Biological Diversity (COP decision VI/22) prioritized and elaborated the following program elements vis-à-vis forest conservation and sustainable forest management: a) conservation sustainable use and benefit sharing; b) institutional and socioeconomic enabling environment; and c) knowledge, assessment, and monitoring. Within these program elements, 14 goals and 27 objectives were identified. Guidance to the GEF based on this decision is provided in decision VI/17/c, which requests that the GEF provide financial resources “for country-driven projects focusing on the identified national priorities, as well as regional and international actions that assist the implementation of the expanded work program considering conservation of biological diversity, sustainable use of its components, and fair and equitable sharing of the benefits from genetic resources in a balanced way, underscoring the importance of ensuring long-term conservation, sustainable use, and benefit-sharing of native forests.” In addition, in decision VII/11, paragraph 7, the Conference of the Parties (COP) noted that “sustainable forest management, as developed within the framework established by the Rio Forest Principles, can be considered as a means of applying the ecosystem approach to forests.”

3. The UNFCCC highlights the role and importance of terrestrial sinks and reservoirs of greenhouse gases and the need to promote their conservation and enhancement, as appropriate (UNFCCC Preamble and Article 4, paragraph, 1d). Programs to implement the objectives of the UNFCCC also recognize the relationship between climate change and deforestation. Tropical deforestation contributes more to climate change than any other form of land degradation, resulting in the release of carbon dioxide and the loss of carbon stored in biomass and soils, and has little counteractive albedo effect.

4. Finally, the UNCCD notes that actions to combat desertification (or land degradation in arid, semi-arid, and sub-humid areas) should be undertaken within the framework of an integrated approach that can contribute to sustainable development (UNCCD, Article 2, paragraph 1). The UNCCD focuses on combating land degradation, including forest degradation in arid, semi-arid, and sub-humid regions, and mitigating “the effects of drought in countries experiencing serious drought and/or desertification, particularly in Africa, through effective actions at all levels, supported by international cooperation and partnership arrangements, in the framework of an integrated approach which is consistent with Agenda 21, with a view to contributing to the achievement of sustainable development in the affected areas” (CCD, Article 2, paragraph 1).

5. In addition to the high priority placed on forests by the three conventions for which GEF serves as one or the only financial mechanism, the international community has engaged in numerous processes to advance sustainable forest management. In October 2000, the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations, in its Resolution 2000/35, established the United Nations Forum on Forests (UNFF), a subsidiary body with the main objective to promote the management, conservation, and sustainable development of all types of forests and to strengthen long-term political commitment to this end. Currently, the UNFF serves as an intergovernmental forum to foster common understanding and advance the dialogue on sustainable forest management.

6. The UNFF followed a five-year period (1995-2000) of forest policy dialogue facilitated by the Intergovernmental Panel on Forests (IPF) and the Intergovernmental Forum on Forests (IFF). In October, 2000, the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations in its resolution 2000/35 established the UNFF, a subsidiary body with the main objective to promote “the management, conservation, and sustainable development of all types of forests and to strengthen long-term political commitment to this end” based on the Rio Declaration, the Forest Principles, Chapter 11 of Agenda 21, and the outcome of the IPF/IFF Processes and other key milestones of international forest policy. The IPF/IFF processes produced more than 270 proposals for action towards sustainable forest management, known collectively as the IPF/IFF Proposals for Action. These proposals were the basis for the UNFF Multi-Year Programme of Work (MYPOW) and Plan of Action, and were discussed at annual UNFF sessions.

7. UNFF 6 decided to set up the following shared global objectives:

1. Reverse the loss of forest cover worldwide through sustainable forest management, including protection, restoration, afforestation and reforestation, and increase efforts to prevent forest degradation.
2. Enhance forest-based economic, social, and environmental benefits, including by improving the livelihoods of forest-dependent people.
3. Increase significantly the area of protected forests and other areas of sustainably managed forest worldwide, as well as the proportion of forest products from sustainably managed forests.
4. Reverse the decline in official development assistance for sustainable forest management and mobilize significantly increased new and additional financial resources from all sources for the implementation of sustainable forest management.

8. UNFF 7 in 2007 adopted a Non Legally Binding Instrument (NLBI) on all types of forests and a MYPOW running until 2015, dealing in 2009 with climate change, biological diversity, desertification and forest degradation. The NLBI contains the four Global Objectives on Forests as well as political guidance for their achievement. It offers an internationally-agreed conceptual framework for sustainable forest management (SFM) for all types of forests. The NLBI also calls for self-commitment by member states regarding their national policies and

measures, and for international cooperation to contribute to the achievement of the agreed objectives.

II. GEF'S STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES IN SUSTAINABLE FOREST MANAGEMENT

9. The importance that countries place on investing in SFM is evidenced throughout the GEF project portfolio by the many projects that incorporate the elements of SFM within the context of a single project intervention in forest ecosystems.³ As noted in GEF/C.27/14, GEF has provided robust support to SFM amounting to more than 230 project interventions totaling \$1.2 billion of GEF resources which leveraged an additional \$3.45 billion since the inception of the GEF through December, 2005.⁴ Within these country-driven projects, the GEF provides, per the Instrument, “new and additional grant and concessional funding to meet the agreed incremental costs of measures to achieve agreed global environmental benefits” in the focal areas of biodiversity, climate change, international waters, ozone depletion, land degradation and persistent organic pollutants. Thus, GEF’s role, as one institution of many involved in SFM, is well prescribed. With its engagement in SFM, the GEF contributes to the achievement of the Global Objectives on Forests as adopted by UNFF, in particular to Global Objective 3. Possible synergies with SFM initiatives planned by the GEF agencies will be explored.

10. The GEF will continue to operate under the following operational considerations with regards to GEF support to forest management.

11. GEF financing will not be used:

- (a) To finance logging operations in primary forests
- (b) For the conversion of forests to alternative land use
- (c) To meet sustainable baseline costs of pursuing SFM
- (d) To meet the cost of forest certification schemes
- (e) To improve timber harvesting methods to meet SFM certification criteria
- (f) For reforestation or restoration of habitat following logging operations
- (g) To finance the costs of reduced impact logging to secure SFM
- (h) To finance the costs of commercial, industrial timber plantations, and tree-farming systems

³ Sustainable forest management may include: conservation and management of forest biodiversity; management of forests to reduce risks and disturbances such as wildfires, pollution, invasive alien species, pests and disease; production of wood and non-wood forest products by forests and trees outside forests; safeguarding the role that forests and trees outside forests play in moderating soil, hydrological, and aquatic systems; and the legal, policy, and institutional framework required to support sustainable forest management.

⁴ GEF Activities Related to Forests, GEF/C.27/14, October 12, 2005.

- (i) To create carbon credits for future carbon trading

12. GEF financing for projects associated with harvesting wood and non-wood forest products are used:

- (a) In conformity with GEF's objectives of conservation, sustainable use, and benefit sharing for SFM and CBD guidance on the same.
- (b) In conformity with the incremental cost policy (i.e., GEF support to forest management activities could be additional, substitutional, or of both types, and each of these activities must concur with all the guiding principles of the GEF operational strategy).
- (c) In conformity with the public involvement policies: where relocation or resettlement is anticipated this should be done in a transparent, participatory, and voluntary basis.
- (d) For small, pilot, local, community-based or national scale demonstration projects but not for large commercial-scale interventions.
- (e) To support alternative livelihoods in production forests to take the pressure off biodiversity in protected areas, but only where: i) production forests are part of the national baseline and are being practiced in accordance with other criteria that incorporate environmental sustainability criteria (e.g., Forest Stewardship Council etc.); and ii) where the production forestry and the alternative livelihood under this scheme do not undermine the biodiversity targeted for conservation in the protected areas concerned.

13. During GEF-4, the GEF will continue to support the elements of sustainable forest management that are eligible for GEF financing through the existing focal area strategic programs. The GEF framework strategy identifies how GEF's focal area strategic programs contribute to the sustainable management of forests to primarily achieve global environmental benefits but also local livelihood benefits. The framework strategy also identifies one potential new strategic program that is cross-cutting in nature (biodiversity-climate change-land degradation) entitled "Forest Conservation as a Means to Protect Carbon Stocks and Avoid CO₂ Emissions". In order to ensure that projects in the climate change focal area promoting the production of biofuels from biomass feedstocks do not negatively impact on the goals of the other GEF focal areas, a targeted research project is also proposed to identify and develop sustainability criteria for sustainable biomass production.

Table 1. Sustainable Forest Management Strategic Objectives

Goal of GEF Support to Sustainable Forest Management:		
Sustainable management of forests to achieve global benefits		
Strategic Objective and Expected Impact	Supported Through Existing Focal Area Strategic Program	Supported Through New Strategic Program
SO-1: Conservation and sustainable use of forest biodiversity Forest biodiversity conserved and sustainably used in protected area systems	Biodiversity: “Sustainable Financing for Protected Area Systems at the National Level”	Biodiversity/Climate Change/Land Degradation: “Management of LULUCF as a Means to Protect Carbon Stocks and Reduce GHG Emissions”
	Biodiversity: “Strengthening Terrestrial Protected Area Networks”	
SO-2: Sustainable management and use of forest resources Production forests sustainably managed	Biodiversity: “Strengthening the Policy and Regulatory Framework for Mainstreaming Biodiversity”	Biodiversity/Climate Change/Land Degradation: “Promoting Sustainable Energy Production from Biomass”
	Biodiversity: “Prevention, Control and Management of Invasive Alien Species”	
	Biodiversity: “Fostering Markets for Biodiversity Goods and Services”	
	Land Degradation: “Sustainable Forest Management in Production Landscapes”	
	Climate Change: “Promoting Sustainable Energy Production from Biomass”	

III. STRATEGIC FOCUS FOR SUSTAINABLE FOREST MANAGEMENT IN GEF-4

A. Strategic Objective One: To Conserve and Sustainably Use Forest Biodiversity

Biodiversity Strategic Program 1: Sustainable Financing of Protected Area Systems at the National Level

14. GEF-supported interventions under this strategic program will use a variety of tools and revenue mechanisms to contribute to sustainable financing of protected areas, including payments for environmental services generated by forest protected areas.

Biodiversity Strategic Program 2: Strengthening Terrestrial Protected Area Networks

15. Through this strategic program, countries will be able to include under-represented forest ecosystems in the protected area system. GEF’s focus will remain on the sustainability of the system, and thus interventions that seek to incorporate a new forest protected area into the system will need to demonstrate that sufficient resources are reallocated to the management of

the new protected area. This will help ensure that the additional protected area receives the same level of management inputs as other protected areas in the system enjoy.

Biodiversity/Climate Change/Land Degradation Strategic Program (New): Management of LULUCF as a Means to Protect Carbon Stocks and Reduce GHG Emissions

16. Forests provide a range of environmental services and related global environmental benefits whose value is not wholly reflected in the marketplace. This market failure contributes to forest degradation and, in the end, to wasteful forest destruction.

17. There are many proponents of developing incentive-based instruments to protect forests as a carbon stock and to generate biodiversity benefits. They propose that by according a real cash value to the carbon stored in a standing forest, and implicitly to biodiversity conservation and the other environmental services forests provide, a financial alternative would be created to counter the unsustainable forest practices that produce only short-term financial gain (e.g., illegal logging or transformation into pasture or croplands), thus counterbalancing the forces of forest destruction.

18. Through this strategic program, the GEF will promote the reduction of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from land use, land use change and forestry (LULUCF). GEF activities to be supported under this program could include: improving methodologies to reliably measure carbon stored/emitted from LULUCF; building national capacity; and funding investments aimed at enhancing the adoption of systems and practices that reduce emissions, increase sequestration, and accurately measure and monitor the benefits of such efforts within the forest sector. Climate Change Strategic Program 6 (“Promoting reduction of greenhouse gas emissions from, and increasing carbon sequestration in, the land use, land use change, and forestry sector”) will be a means of providing funding for priorities identified under this program. An agreed-upon methodology to reliably measure carbon stored in standing forests would also allow future GEF project proponents to quantify in a reliable and standardized way carbon as a global environmental benefit in forest-related projects

B. Strategic Objective Two: To Promote Sustainable Management and Use of Forest Resources

Biodiversity Strategic Program 4: Strengthening the Policy and Regulatory Framework for Mainstreaming Biodiversity

19. The incorporation of biodiversity conservation, sustainable use, and benefit-sharing into broader forest policy and regulatory frameworks is not taking place in many GEF-eligible countries due to a number of constraining factors, some common to conservation generally (e.g., poor governance, weak capacity, lack of scientific knowledge) and others specific to the challenge of mainstreaming biodiversity into productive sectors (e.g., lack of incentives, inadequate valuation data on biodiversity). Through this strategic program, GEF will support projects that remove critical knowledge barriers, develop institutional capacities, and establish the forest policies, legislative, and regulatory frameworks required to integrate biodiversity conservation and sustainable use objectives into the forest sector.

Biodiversity Strategic Program 5: Fostering Markets for Biodiversity Goods and Services

20. The GEF will build on experience gained in GEF-3 and continue to support the design and implementation of payment for environmental service (PES) schemes to compensate forest resource managers for off-site ecological benefits. This would include support to identify where potential opportunities are for PES schemes that include private sector actors on the demand side.

21. The GEF will build on previous experience with certification and support: a) improvement of forest certification standards to capture global environmental benefits (this could include targeted research to improve the indicators and criteria used in certification systems with regards to measuring the components of biodiversity in forests certified as being managed sustainably); b) increasing country capacity to scale up and increase the sustainability of certification systems; c) establishment of sustainable training systems for farmers and certifiers; d) development of traceability systems and strengthening of supply chain management linking end products and services to their source; e) strengthening market outreach to enhance private sector and consumer awareness of certified products and, hence, increase demand for higher environmental and social standards; and f) facilitating access to finance for producers, cooperatives, and companies working either with or towards certified products and services.

Biodiversity Strategic Program 7: Prevention, Control, and Management of Invasive Alien Species

22. The GEF will support integrated cross-sectoral approaches required to implement cost-effective strategies to prevent, control, and manage invasive alien species (IAS) in forest ecosystems. During GEF-4, support will be provided to: a) strengthening the enabling policy and institutional environment for cross-sectoral prevention and management of invasions; b) implementing communication strategies that emphasize a pathways and ecosystem approach to managing invasions; c) developing and implementing appropriate risk analysis procedures for non-native species importations; d) early detection and rapid response procedures for management of nascent infestations; and e) managing priority alien species invasions.

Climate Change Strategic Program 4: Promoting Sustainable Energy Production from Biomass

23. In the past, GEF has supported projects that utilize biomass wastes to generate heat and electricity for modern energy purposes. Only a handful of projects proposing planting of trees or other dedicated biomass feedstocks were ever approved. However, with the increase in pressure to increase the fraction of renewable biomass energy in countries' energy mixes as a response to both the challenges of climate change and the rise in petroleum prices, the GEF will begin to more actively support modernized biomass using dedicated biomass feedstock. This is a new strategic program being proposed for GEF-4.

24. In order to do this successfully, attention must be paid to the sustainability of the production of biomass feedstocks. It is anticipated that the biomass to be used in these projects will be grown on formerly degraded forest or agricultural land and will not result in the

conversion of primary and other forests to alternative land uses such as biomass production that applies unsustainable techniques. Sustainability criteria will be needed to ensure that biomass supplies are derived from sustainably managed cropping systems in all aspects, and also to ensure that perverse incentives are not introduced that may have a net negative climate impact, including impacting on the objectives of the UNFCCC and other GEF focal areas. Only through this kind of approach could biomass energy be certified as sustainable, much as other forest products can be certified. International efforts have begun to focus on the process of certifying the sustainability of biomass production and biofuel supplies.

Climate Change / Biodiversity /Land Degradation Strategic Program (New): Promoting Sustainable Energy Production from Biomass

25. As part of this new strategic program, the GEF will support a targeted research project to help ensure the environmental sustainability of the “Sustainable Energy from Biomass” portfolio. This targeted research effort will develop appropriate sustainability criteria to ensure that energy from biomass projects do not negatively impact the objectives of the other GEF focal areas and that the biomass production itself is environmentally sustainable. The outputs of the targeted research will likely contribute to the ongoing work at the global level to develop certification standards for sustainable biomass production.

Land Degradation Strategic Program 2: Supporting Sustainable Forest Management in Production Landscapes

26. This program will support landscape approaches to the management of woodlands, humid forest margins, and reducing forest fragmentation. During GEF-4, support will be provided to: a) strengthen the enabling policy and institutional environment for managing forest resources in the wider landscape; b) define strategies to avoid the degradation of woodlands, forest margins, and further forest fragmentation mainly caused by expanding agricultural activities and unsustainable harvesting of fuel wood; and c) replicate successful practices in SFM in the wider landscape to restore the integrity of forest ecosystems. Priority is given *savanna/cerrado*, *miombo* ecosystems, forest fragments, and humid forest margins. In this program, issues related to climate change and biodiversity in forest and woodland ecosystems may also be featured. Regional priorities are the margins and buffer zones of the Congo and Amazon Basins, South-East Asia, Central American dry and montane forests, and the South American *Chaco*.

GEF Policies to Support the Goal of the Framework Strategy

27. The GEF proposes that for all GEF projects in GEF-4 allowances be made to measure carbon sequestration achieved through these investments.

28. In addition, one output of the targeted research project identified above will develop sustainability criteria that will be applied to all climate change biomass projects for energy to ensure that no unintended impacts are generated to the detriment of the objectives being pursued through other GEF focal areas.

Table 2: Summary of Strategic Programs for SFM in GEF-4

Strategic Programs for GEF-4	Expected Outcomes	Indicators
Sustainable financing of protected area systems at national level	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Forest protected areas contribute to increased system-wide revenue and diversification of revenue streams to meet total expenditures required to meet management objectives 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Total revenue and diversification in revenue streams generated by forest protected areas
Strengthened terrestrial protected area networks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improved coverage of under-represented forest ecosystems areas as part of national protected area systems • Improved management of forest protected areas 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Forest ecosystem coverage in national protected area systems • Protected area management effectiveness as measure by individual protected area scorecards
Biodiversity/climate change/land degradation strategic program (New): Management of LULUCF as a means to protect carbon stocks and reduce GHG emissions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Methodology, policy, and regulatory frameworks to reduce GHG emissions from LULUCF and deforestation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Methodologies developed for carbon measurement • Improved institutional and technical capacity to monitor and measure emissions from, and sequestration in, the LULUCF sector • GEF forest-related projects quantify carbon benefits • Tons of CO_{2eq} avoided or sequestered in forests at national level • Coordinated policy and regulatory frameworks adopted to address drivers of land use and management changes in forests
Strengthening the policy and regulatory framework	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policy and regulatory frameworks governing the forest sectors incorporates measures to conserve and sustainably use biodiversity 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The degree to which forest policies and regulations include measures to conserve and sustainably use biodiversity as measured by GEF tracking tools
Fostering markets for biodiversity goods and services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Global certification systems for forest products include technically rigorous biodiversity standards 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Published certification standards for biodiversity friendly forest products
Sustainable energy from biomass	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adoption of modern and sustainable practices in biomass production, conversion and use 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Energy generated CO₂ avoided thru energy use and CO₂ sequestered thru carbon fixation

Strategic Programs for GEF-4	Expected Outcomes	Indicators
Sustainable forest management in production landscapes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Forest resources in humid forest margins, forest fragments, and woodland resources in semi-arid and sub-humid ecosystems are managed sustainably as part of the wider landscape 	<p><u>In partner countries:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Each partner country develops, implements, and, as necessary, updates National Forest Programmes, national land use policies, and other strategies for sustainable forest management • % of extension programs offered by key institutions reflects ecosystem principles and concepts in wider landscape management, including forest and woodland resources • % increase in allocation of resources to sector ministries dealing with forest and woodland resources • % increase in net and <i>per caput</i> access of forest and woodland-dependent land users to rural credit facilities and/or revolving funds • % increase in area where SFM best practices are applied