



**National Report on Sustainable Forests
and
U.S. Country Report to UNFF on
IPF/IFF Proposals for Action:**

**A Comprehensive Basis for
National Dialogue on
Sustainable Forest Management**

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Proposals for Action: Short history

- 1997 - UN Intergovernmental Panel on Forests (IPF): 150 Proposals for Action to promote country progress toward sustainable forest management
- 1999 - UN Intergovernmental Forum on Forests (IFF): 120 addition Proposals for Action to promote policy dialogue on unresolved issues
- 2000-2005 - UN Forum on Forests (UNFF): to oversee implementation of Proposals for Action



UNFF 2 (2002) themes:

- Combating deforestation and forest degradation
- Forest conservation and protection of unique ecosystems
- Conservation strategies for countries with low forest cover
- Rehabilitation/restoration of degraded lands
- Promotion of natural and planted forests
- Concepts, terminology and definitions



UNFF 3 (2003) themes:

- Economic aspects of forests
- Forest health and productivity
- Maintaining forest cover to meet present and future needs



UNFF 4 (2004) themes:

- Traditional forest related knowledge
- Forest-related scientific knowledge
- Social and cultural aspects of forests
- Monitoring, assessment and reporting terminology
- Criteria and indicators of SFM



US Commitment

The US has agreed to implement the IPF/IFF Proposals for Action in a manner consistent with national priorities and within political, social, and economic limits.



Pinchot Institute role

In cooperation with:

USDA Forest Service, International Programs

US Department of State

Facilitate monitoring, assessment and reporting of domestic US response to the Proposals for Action

- 2001: Crosswalk C & I \leftrightarrow IPF/IFF Proposals
- 2002-2004: Preparation of preliminary US Country Reports for UNFF 2-UNFF 4
- 2005: Comprehensive US Country Report to UNFF

**Preliminary National Report
To the Fourth Session of the
United Nations Forum on Forests**

*Progress and Issues Related to the Implementation of
The IFF/IPF Proposals for Action*

United States of America





Purposes of country reports

1. *Domestic.* Facilitate a country's own internal assessment of forest conditions and trends as a basis for evaluation and potential further actions to promote SFM.
2. *International.* Serve as a basis for technical and/or financial assistance to promote SFM—or as a model to guide other nations as they build their own institutional, legal and policy framework for SFM.



United States Department of Agriculture



National Report on Sustainable Forests — 2003





National Report on Sustainable Forests

“This report provides factual information. It explains what we know and do not know about forest sustainability. But this report will cause no change by itself. . .”



National Report on Sustainable Forests

“Our actions speak louder than words. This report gives us a golden opportunity to better understand SFM and to immediately begin doing what we know needs to be done on the ground to improve forest sustainability.”



US country report to UNFF:

Unique approach

Existing responses to Proposals for Action from:

- Government: federal, state and tribal
- Private forest landowners
- Forest industry
- Conservation NGOs



Basis for national dialogue among diversity of stakeholders:

- Acceptability of current conditions and trends
- Adequacy of existing actions
- Options for possible further actions
- Prioritization among possible actions



Reports available for review at:

- ***www.un.org/esa/forests/reports-unff4***
(country reports-short version)
- ***www.pinchot.org/international/unff*** (US reports-long version, including policies, programs, activities by public private and nonprofit sectors)



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Final Reporting Format

7 Common Thematic Areas of SFM

- **Extent of Forest Resources**
- **Biological Diversity**
- **Forest Health and Vitality**
- **Productive Functions of Forest Resources
(including carbon sequestration)**
- **Protective Functions of Forest Resources**
- **Socio-economic Functions**
- **Legal, Policy and Institutional Framework**



Objectives for Reporting Format

- Increase linkage to other forest reporting processes – National Report on Sustainable Forests
- More accessible to domestic stakeholders
- Simplify reporting process
- Responds to international processes
- Addresses forest values and goals of SFM as understood worldwide