

United Nations Forum on Forests

POLICY BRIEF



Natural Resources: A Cross Cutting Sustainable Development Goal in the context of the post 2015 UN development agenda

Forests in the broader landscape of Development and Sustainability

The period from 2013 to 2015 will shape future work on the implementation of the Rio+20 outcome, including the development of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), as well as the post 2015 development agenda and the integration of the two. These are extremely important processes for forests and, therefore, need to be addressed by UNFF10 and in the lead up to the consideration by UNFF of the future of the international arrangement on forests at its eleventh session in 2015.

The SDGs: Framework and Focus on Forests

Given the high degree of global interdependence and the need for an efficient framework for action to respond to a number of challenges that have become more pressing, the need establishment of agreed and overarching goals for the international community was agreed to at the Rio+20 Conference. Member States called for the SDGs to be action oriented, concise, easy to communicate, limited in number, aspirational, global in nature and universally applicable to all countries, while taking into account different national realities, capacities and levels of development and respecting national policies and priorities¹.

A joint timetable for a decision on defining the SDGs, and developing a post 2015 UN development agenda, requires exploring the most effective overarching goals for the SDGs. The challenge is how to set such a ~~AA~~ poverty eradication and sustainable development agenda for the UN beyond 2015 was widely supported at the Rio+20 Conference. There were also quite extensive debates between Member States on whether or not it is necessary to set up specific

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significant connection to conflict, violence and disaster in the context of natural resources – this is bound to worsen in future years.

A Cross Cutting SDG on Natural Resources

During the Rio+20 Conference, countries