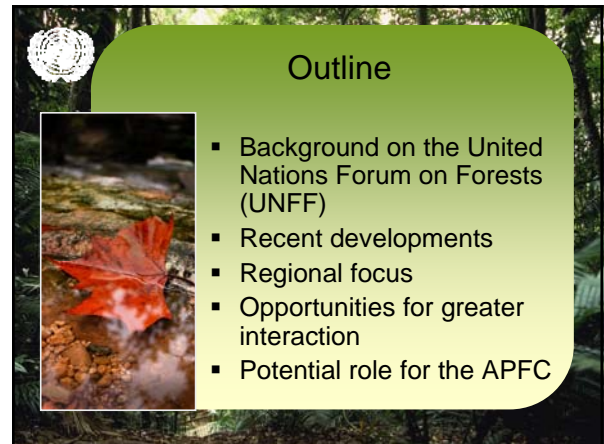


## Recent developments in the UNFF: Opportunities for enhanced regional interactions

Asia-Pacific Forestry Commission, 22<sup>nd</sup> Session  
Hanoi, Viet Nam, 21-26 April 2008

Mahendra Joshi, UNFF Secretariat



## Outline

- Background on the United Nations Forum on Forests (UNFF)
- Recent developments
- Regional focus
- Opportunities for greater interaction
- Potential role for the APFC



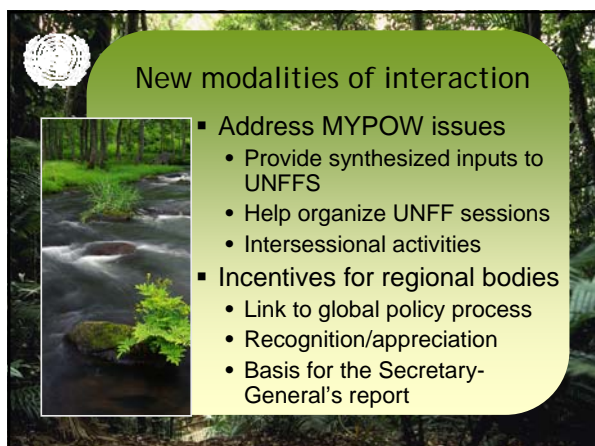
## UNFF's unique role

- UNFF provides a unique opportunity for forests and forestry profession to get highest recognition
- The *Non-legally binding instrument (NLBI)* and the *Int'l Year of Forests 2011 (IYF 2011)* were adopted by the highest UN body – the General Assembly
- 4 Global Objectives on Forests – common mission for all
- MYPOW adds additional key components
- Collaborative Partnership on Forests



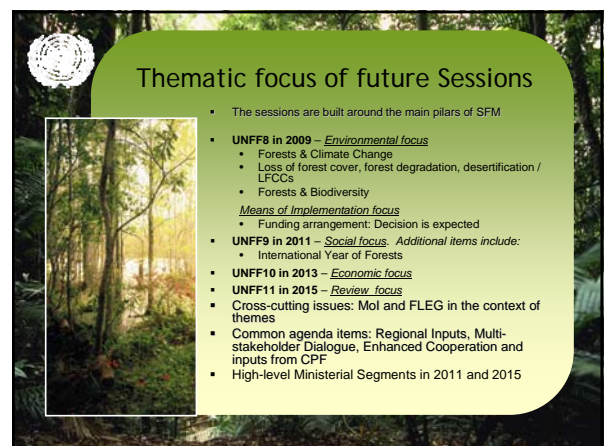
## Regional focus

- Original mandate and new addition
- NLBI and MYPOW have given greater regional focus
- Conduit between local and global issues
- Regional entities (e.g., APFC) are potential vehicles to influence the UNFF deliberations and its agenda setting (e.g., emerging issues – carbon, biofuel, etc.)



## New modalities of interaction

- Address MYPOW issues
  - Provide synthesized inputs to UNFFS
  - Help organize UNFF sessions
  - Intersessional activities
- Incentives for regional bodies
  - Link to global policy process
  - Recognition/appreciation
  - Basis for the Secretary-General's report




## Thematic focus of future Sessions

- The sessions are built around the main pillars of SFM
- UNFF8 in 2009 – *Environmental focus*
  - Forests & Climate Change
  - Loss of forest cover, forest degradation, desertification / LFCCs
  - Forests & Biodiversity
- *Means of Implementation focus*
  - Funding arrangement: Decision is expected
- UNFF9 in 2011 – *Social focus*: Additional items include:
  - International Year of Forests
- UNFF10 in 2013 – *Economic focus*
- UNFF11 in 2015 – *Review focus*
- Cross-cutting issues: MoI and FLEG in the context of themes
- Common agenda items: Regional Inputs, Multi-stakeholder Dialogue, Enhanced Cooperation and inputs from CPF
- High-level Ministerial Segments in 2011 and 2015




## APFC's potential role



Playing a crucial role as a link between countries and global forum:

- In implementation of the NLBI
- on global-regional interactions and partnerships
- in providing focused inputs to UNFF



## APFC's potential role...



- A new window of opportunity to interact and influence global agenda setting
- Developing a model for interaction and inputting to UNFF
- What and how to transmit input to UNFF8
  - Consider agenda items of UNFF8
  - Other Commission-relevant issues



## Thank You

UN Forum on Forests Secretariat  
New York

[www.un.org/esa/forests/](http://www.un.org/esa/forests/)