

Sustainable forestry for food security and nutrition



Forests occupy 1/3 of the earth's land area.

An estimated **1/3** of the **global population** depends on forest goods and services such as food, woodfuel, medicines, employment and income.



Current estimated global net forest loss is **3.3 million hectares** per year; much of which – about **80 percent** – is to make room for agriculture.

But this can change...



...more than 20 developing countries have improved **food security** while **maintaining or increasing forest cover**.

Forests and the 4 dimensions of food security



Food **availability**



Access to food



Food **utilization**



Stability over time

Food availability

Forest ecosystem services **support agricultural and fishery production**.

Forests are a **rich source of foods** such as nuts, roots, fruits, seeds, mushrooms, insects, honey and wildmeat, **providing essential nutrients** to millions of people around the world.



Recent studies show the **diets of children living near forests are better** than those living in less forested landscapes

Food access



The forest sector provides a host of economic benefits, including **employment and increased household income**. These allow people to purchase food, thereby increasing household food security.



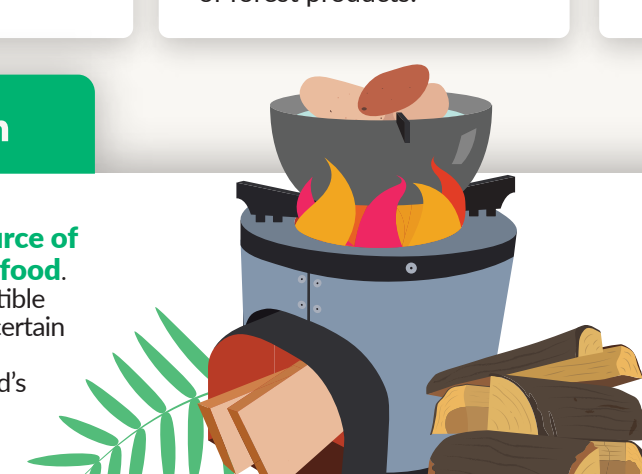
Global, annual income from roundwood, sawnwood, panels, pulp and paper production amounted to about **US\$600 billion**, with a further **US\$124 billion** of income generated from the informal production of forest products.



Converted to full-time equivalent, these commercial activities provide employment for **over 50 million people**. Almost **30 million forest owners** also benefit from economic activities in the sector.

Food utilization

Wood is a major source of energy for cooking food. Cooking releases digestible protein and enhances certain micronutrients, thus increasing the food's nutritional value.



2.4 billion people worldwide, or **one out of 3**, use woodfuel to cook meals and sterilize water.

Food stability

Sustainable forest ecosystems are essential for sustainable agriculture.

Foods from trees and forests provide people with a safety net in times of need, including as a result of changing seasons, altered harvests, or conflict.



CARBON SEQUESTRATION



SOIL CONSERVATION



HABITAT PROTECTION



WATER CYCLE

Forested watersheds and wetlands supply **75 %** of the world's accessible fresh water for domestic, agricultural, industrial and ecological needs i.e. the water upon which much of life on earth depends.

When managed sustainably, forests can absorb about **10 %** of global **carbon emissions**, thus mitigating climate change and its impact on food production.

Sustainable forest management contributes to global food security and nutrition, and could be increased significantly through priority actions to:

- 1 provide** secure land and forest tenure and equitable access to resources
- 2 recognize and integrate** forests' contribution to food security and nutrition in forest policies
- 3 improve** the alignment of food security and nutrition policies across the agriculture, forestry, livestock, fisheries, energy, mining and other relevant sectors
- 4 increase** access by small forest and farmholders and their organizations to business-skills training, credit, technology, extension services and insurance
- 5 integrate** gender equality in the formulation, implementation and evaluation of relevant forest policies, and in investment strategies
- 6 strengthen** the collection and timely dissemination of data relevant to policy-making on the contribution of forests and trees to food security and nutrition.

Worldwide, **815 million people** go hungry every day. This figure could be reduced, benefiting millions of people, through the wider adoption and implementation of **sustainable forest management** as a **key component of integrated landscape management**, resulting in better protected ecosystem services, **more sustainable food production and increased food security and nutrition** for all.