

- Significantly increase the use of sustainable wood-based solutions within Nationally Determined Contributions by 2030.

In recent years, many initiatives were launched at national or global level with the aim of promoting sustainable wood, particularly in the construction sector. For instance, a Google search on “wood buildings initiatives” returns more than 100,000 results. Architects, engineers, urban planners, and other related professionals, together with wood-processing companies and policymakers, are advancing wood in construction based on technological innovations that support safe, cost-effective, and climate-friendly buildings. Wood as an energy source demands attention, as it can be an efficient source of clean energy in certain circumstances. Additionally, wood energy will continue to support livelihoods in some rural and energy-deprived urban landscapes, where combination of sustainable feedstock and efficient technologies can deliver affordable clean and renewable energy, while contributing to forest restoration and agroforestry development. Expanding the industrial use of wood fiber and circularity are also areas experiencing fast development.

Following the Ministerial Call on Sustainable Wood, the Austrian Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Regions and Water Management (BML) engaged with the International Union of Forest Research Organizations (IUFRO), the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and the Centre for Bioeconomy at the University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences, Vienna (BOKU) through the WOOD for GLOBE project. Acknowledging the wealth of experiences accumulated in countries, international organizations, research centers, and private companies, the project's primary goal is to promote systematic knowledge and policy exchanges, including through the establishment of a Global Wood Policy Platform to support the increased use of sustainable wood with a view to creating a carbon-neutral bioeconomy worldwide.

2. Objective

In advance of the opening of the 9th World Forest Week (WFW 2024), which will be held in conjunction with the 27th Session of the COFO (COFO27) from 22 to 26 July 2024, under the theme “Accelerating Forest Solutions through Innovation”, this pre-WFW high-level dialogue **“WOOD for GLOBE: Leading Pathways to Carbon Neutrality and Resilience”** will provide a platform for countries and other stakeholders to review progress on implementation of the sustainable wood pathways identified in the Ministerial Call on Sustainable Wood launched in 2022 at the XV World Forestry Congress in Seoul, Republic of Korea.

This high-level event will be an opportunity to explore emerging partnerships, synergies, and critical needs to achieve the objectives of Agenda 2030 and the Paris Agreement. A high-level segment focused on a call for action to support wood in the bioeconomy will be chaired by His Excellency Jan Kickert, Ambassador of the Republic of Austria to Italy, with an invitation to scale up contributions of wood to the development of carbon-neutral and resilient economies.

3. Outputs

- Review of progress on sustainable wood use since the Ministerial Call on Sustainable Wood, launched in 2022 at the XV World Forestry Congress, in Seoul, Republic of Korea.
- Global exchange of knowledge, experiences and lessons learned among initiatives and projects.
- Identification of opportunities for international cooperation and collaboration among initiatives.
- Renewed and broadened country commitments to implement the sustainable wood pathways outlined in the Ministerial Call and to promote enhanced policy and technical exchange to accelerate progress.

4. Preliminary Programme

Time	Item	Speakers
8:30-9:30	Welcome Coffee	
9:30-9:35	Welcome by the Moderator	Henry Bonsu International Broadcaster
9:35-9:50	Opening	Zhimin Wu Director, Forestry Division, FAO Georg Rappold Head of Department Wood Policy, Bioeconomy and Innovation, Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Regions and Water Management, Austria Alexander Buck Executive Director, IUFRO
9:50-11:00	Panel I: Advancing Sustainable Wood Pathways: cooperation for policy, science, innovation, knowledge, and investments	Maureen Whelan Manager, International Affairs, Canadian Forest Service – Co-Chair Forest Carbon Leaders Partnership, Canada Veronika Juch Coordinator of the Secretariat, European Wood Policy Platform (woodPoP) David Brand Chair, International Sustainable Forestry Coalition Kim Carstensen Director General, Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) Michael Berger CEO, Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification (PEFC)

		<p>Paul King CEO, Built by Nature</p>
11:00-12:00	<p>Panel II: Advancing Sustainable Wood Pathways: Country experiences</p>	<p>Nelly Paredes Executive Director SERFOR, Peru</p> <p>Song Hee Nam Director General of International Affairs Bureau · Korea Forest Service, Republic of Korea</p> <p>Marcus Vinicius Alves Deputy Director General, Brazilian Forest Service, Brazil</p> <p>Sita Dieudonné Directeur de la Valorisation des Ressources Forestières, Republic of Congo</p> <p>Elikana Maige John Senior Conservation Officer, Department of Forest Resource Assessment Tanzania Forest Service (TFS), Tanzania</p> <p>Anna Tyler Principal Advisor International Forestry International Trade and Relations, Ministry for Primary Industries, Policy and Trade, New Zealand</p>
12:00-14:30	<p>Lunch</p>	
14:30-15:00	<p>Panel III: WOOD for GLOBE: key findings</p>	<p>Thaís Linhares Juvenal Senior Advisor Governance, Economics and Production, Forestry Division, FAO</p> <p>Martin Greimel Head of Centre for Bioeconomy, Boku University, Austria</p> <p>Tahiana Ramanantoandro Head of the Forestry and Environment Department, School of Agronomy, University of Antananarivo, Madagascar</p>

<p>15:00-15:30</p>	<p>Panel IV: Grow the Solution: Creating the enabling environment for sustainable wood pathways</p>	<p>Maria De Cristofaro Outreach and Capacity Building Officer, Forestry Division, Forestry Division, FAO</p> <p>Gerda Wolfrum PR & Communication Coordinator, International Union of Forest Research Organizations (IUFRO) and Deputy Leader of FAO/UNECE Forest Communicators' Network</p> <p>Kai Lintunen Head of International Communications, Finnish Forest Association and Leader of the FAO/UNECE Forest Communicators Network</p> <p>Jennifer Hayes National Sustainable Operations Coordinator, U.S. Forest Service and Co-Leader of the North American Forest Communicators' Network</p>
<p>15:30-16:45</p>	<p>Panel V: Advancing Sustainable Wood Pathways – A Call for Action</p>	<p>Chaired by H.E. Jan Kickert Ambassador of Austria to Italy</p> <p>Video address by H.E. Norbert Totschnig Federal Minister of Agriculture, Forestry, Regions and Water Management, Austria</p> <p>Honorable Beatrice Anywar Atim Minister of State for Environment, Uganda</p> <p>H.E. Jules Doret Ndong Minister of Forests and Wildlife, Republic of Cameroun</p> <p>H.E. Henri Okemba Ambassadeur Extraordinaire et Plénipotentiaire de la République du Congo</p> <p>Video address by H.E. Mateja Čalušić Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Food, Slovenia</p>

		<p>Emilio Gatto Director General of Forestry of the Ministry of Agriculture, Food Sovereignty and Forestry, Italy</p> <p>Nelly Paredes Executive Director SERFOR, Peru</p> <p>Ibrahim Yüzer, Deputy Director General, General Directorate of Forestry, Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, Turkey</p> <p>Video address by Zentaro Kosaka Deputy Director General of the Japan Forestry Agency, Japan</p> <p>María J. Rodríguez de Sancho General Director of Biodiversity, Forest and Desertification, Spain</p> <p>Emma Hatcher Deputy Representative to FAO, Australia</p>
16:45-17:00	Closure	<p>Maria Helena Semedo Deputy Director General, FAO</p>
17:30-19:30	Reception	

5. Contact and meeting website/project website

- Contact: sustainable-wood@fao.org
- Sustainable Wood for a Sustainable World (SW4SW) Initiative website [Sustainable Wood for a Sustainable World \(fao.org\)](https://www.fao.org/sustainable-wood-for-a-sustainable-world/)
- Wood for Globe website [IUFRO: Wood For Globe / Partnership Projects / Science in IUFRO](https://www.fao.org/wood-for-globe/)
- The Collaborative Partnership on Forests (CPF) website <https://www.fao.org/collaborative-partnership-on-forests/en>