

## UNCCD CoP12 Side Event

# The Contribution of Forests and Trees to Food Security in Drylands

Contribution of Forests and Tree-based Systems to Food Security & Nutrition with particular emphasis on drylands

Dr Bhaskar Vira, Director, University of Cambridge Conservation Research Institute & Chair, Global Forest Expert Panel on Forests & Food Security

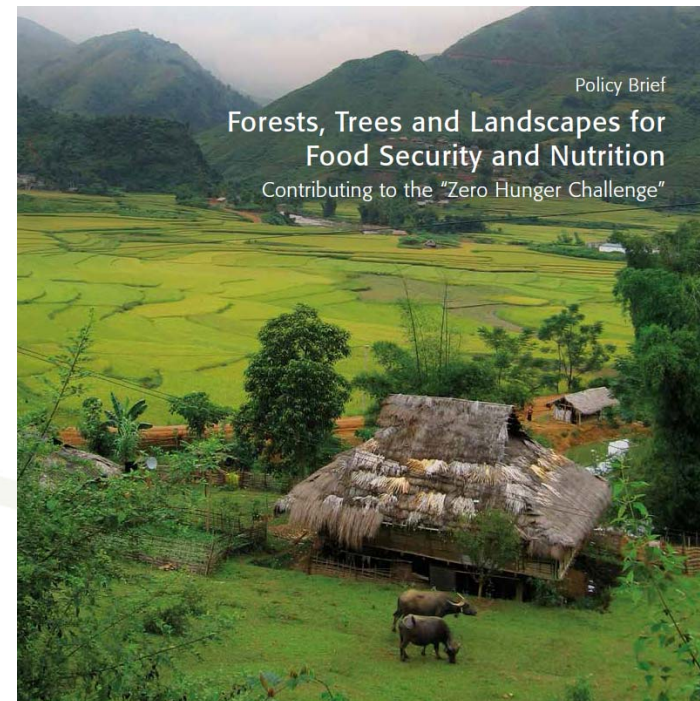
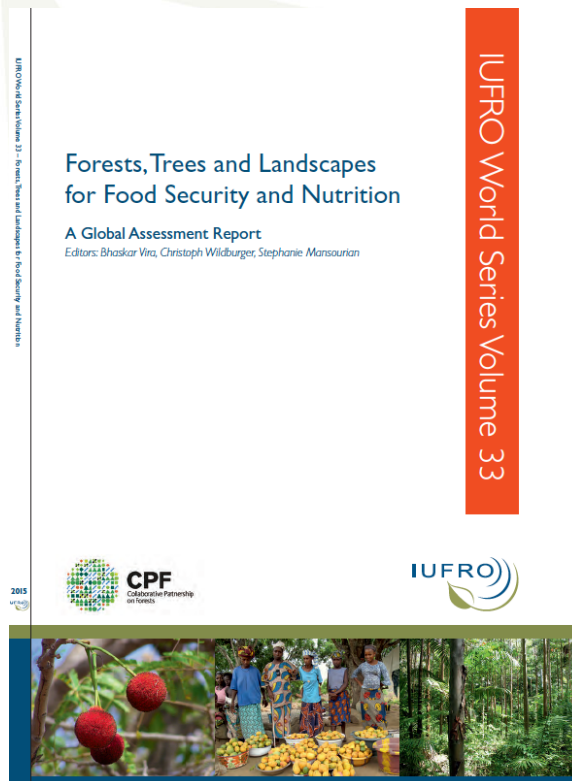


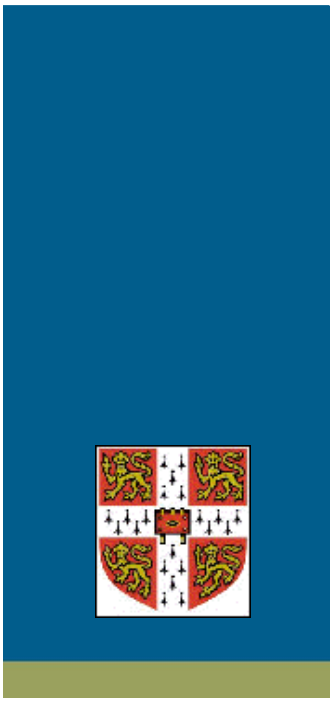
Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

# GLOBAL FOREST EXPERT PANELS

## *Forests, Trees and Landscapes for Food Security and Nutrition*

### *A Global Assessment Report (2015)*





Scientific Information



*UNFF, CBD*    ***UNCCD***    *UNFCCC, UN-SDGs*

International Policy Processes

International Union of Forest Research Organizations

Union Internationale des  
Instituts de Recherches  
Forestières

Unión Internacional  
de Organizaciones de  
Investigación Forestal

Internationaler  
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# GLOBAL FOREST EXPERT PANELS

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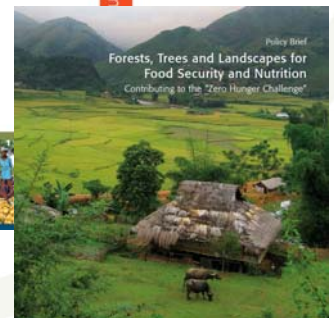
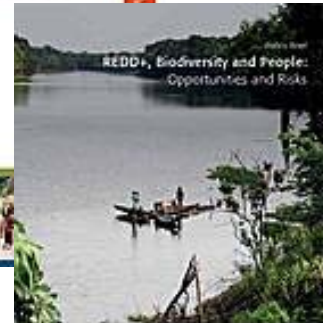
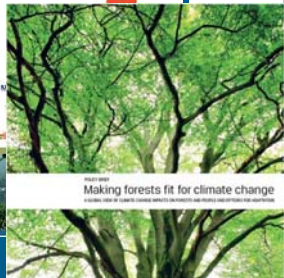
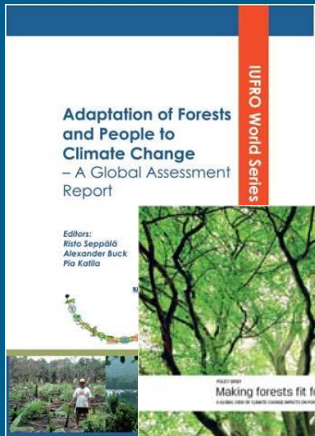
## CPF Logo:



**CPF**  
Collaborative Partnership  
on Forests



# GLOBAL FOREST EXPERT PANELS



Four scientific assessments published so far (climate adaptation, forest governance, REDD+ and biodiversity, forests & food security)



# GFEP report on Forests and Food Security

- RELEASED AT THE UNITED NATIONS FORUM ON FORESTS, NEW YORK, 6 MAY 2015

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Science & Environment

**Forests are 'key feature' of food security landscape**

By Mark Kinver  
Environment reporter, BBC News

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**New UN-backed report emphasizes possible contribution of forests to ending hunger**

Upland women weed their rice fields, an integrated method of agro-forestry in Moipon Village, Laos. UN Photo/Lamphay Inthakoun

6 May 2015 – A new United Nations-backed report on the link between forests and food production and nutrition says that woodlands could be the key to ending hunger and will be intimately linked to the global fight against climate change.


Launched today at UN Headquarters in New York, where the 11th session of the UN Forum on Forests is under way, the Forests, Trees and Landscapes for Food Security and Nutrition report outlines the potential of forests to improve food security and nutrition, and to ensure the livelihoods of the world's most vulnerable people.

\*What the report is trying to get us to focus on is the relatively neglected contribution that

**Report: Proper Forest Management Is a Key to Feeding Planet**

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Rosanne Skirble  
May 12, 2015 7:11 PM

Forests can help to reduce hunger and improve nutrition for millions of people, according to a major

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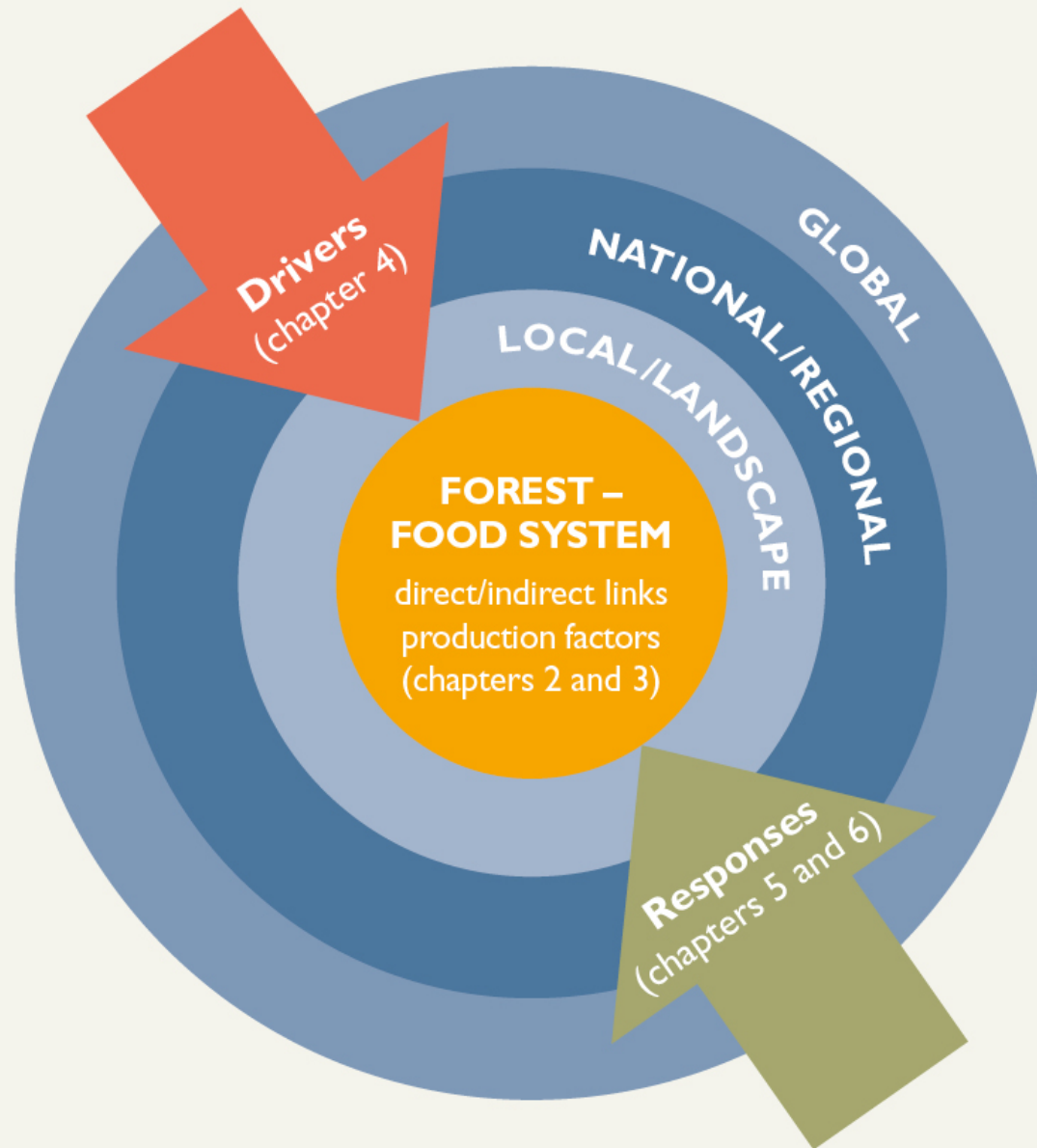
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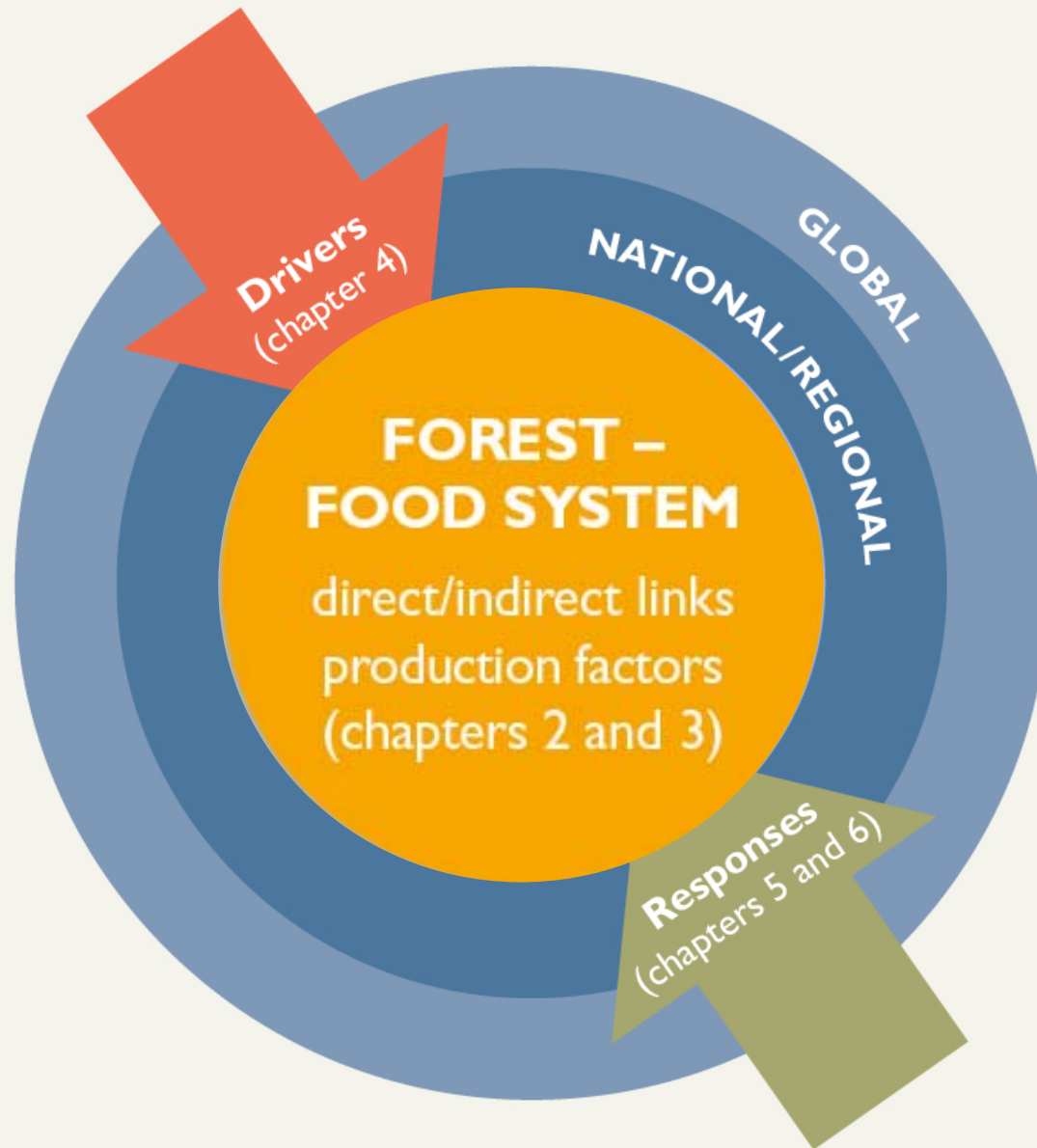


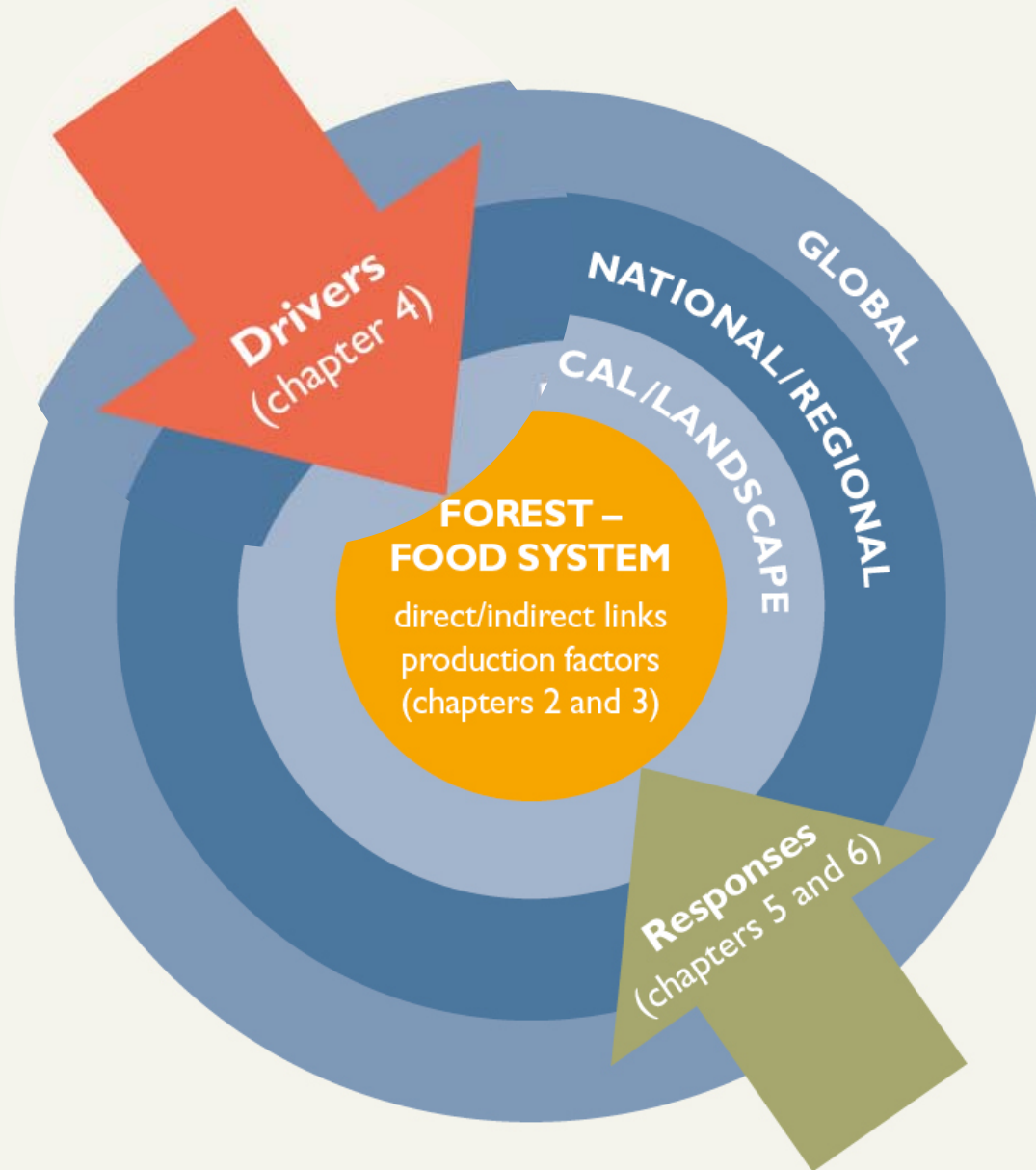
- GFEP Expert Panel on Forests and Food Security commenced work in early 2014
- Around 60 scientists contributed to development of peer reviewed assessment report
- Assessment of direct and indirect roles of forests, agroforests and trees in food systems
- Role of food production systems across the forest-agriculture continuum
- Analysis of environmental, social, economic, political drivers of the forest-food security systems
- Examination of response options across the landscape for food security & nutrition, natural resource conservation and sustainable livelihoods
- Assessment of macro scale response options in relation to drivers of change (role of markets, incentives, governance, public policy)

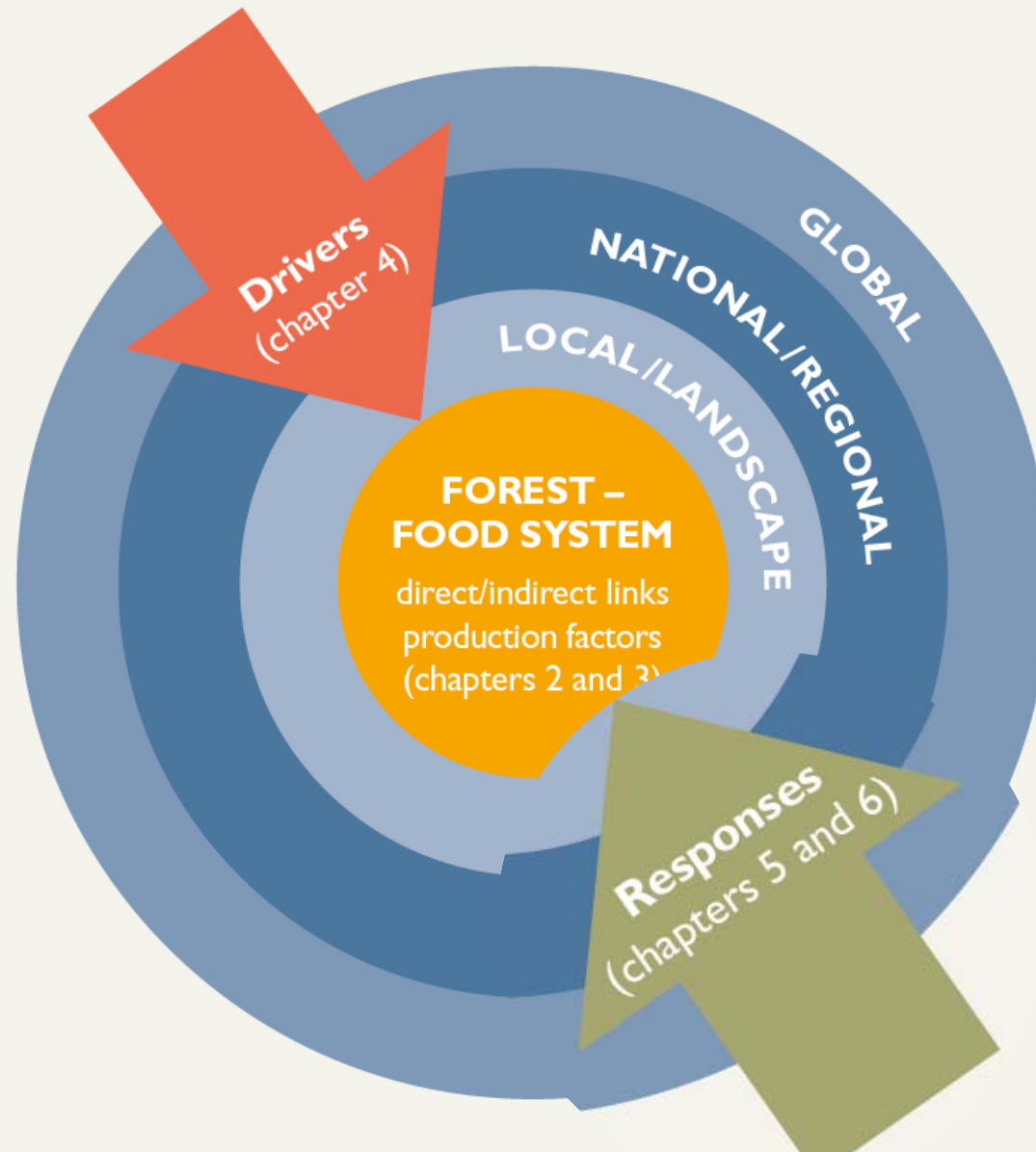


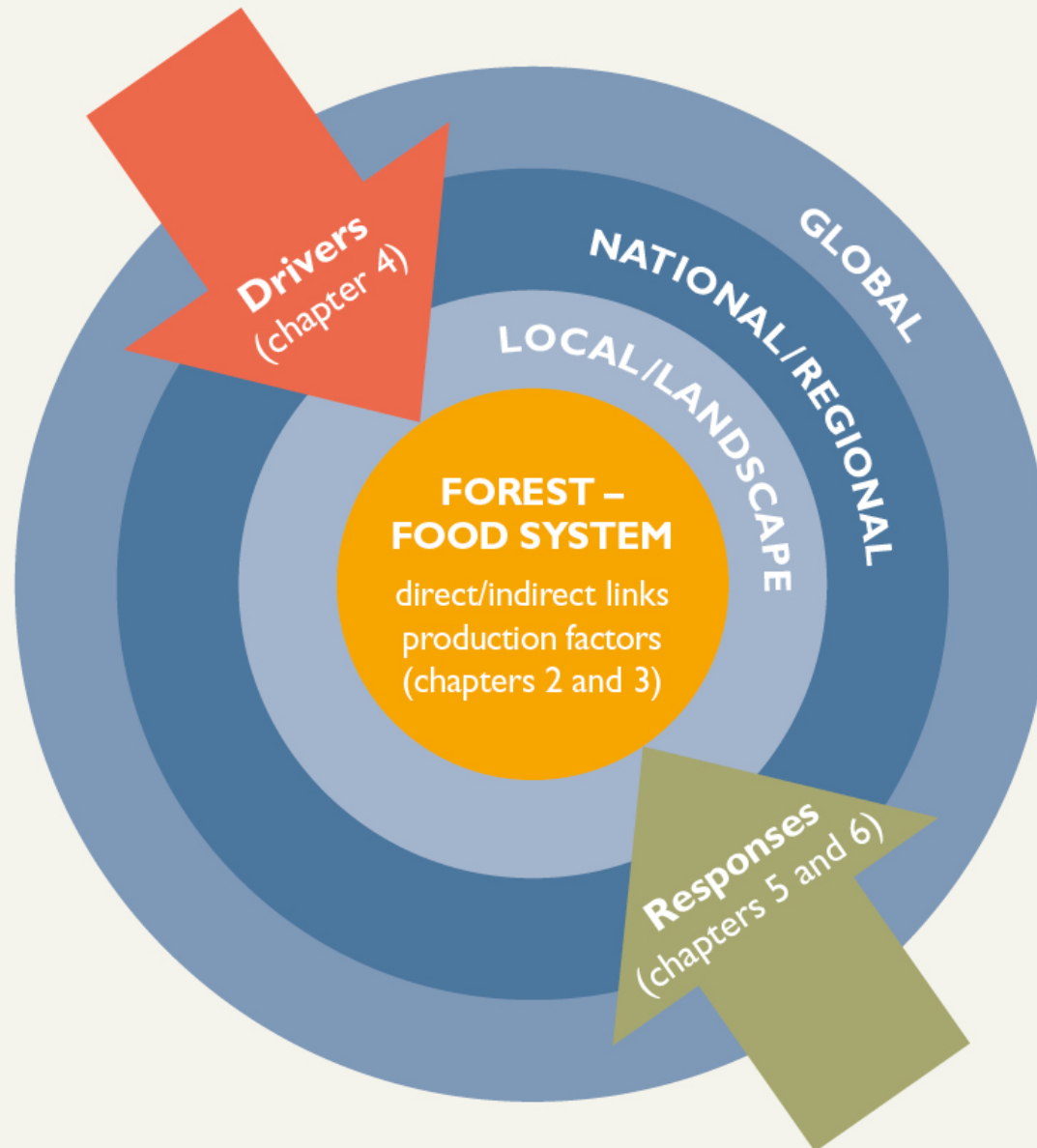


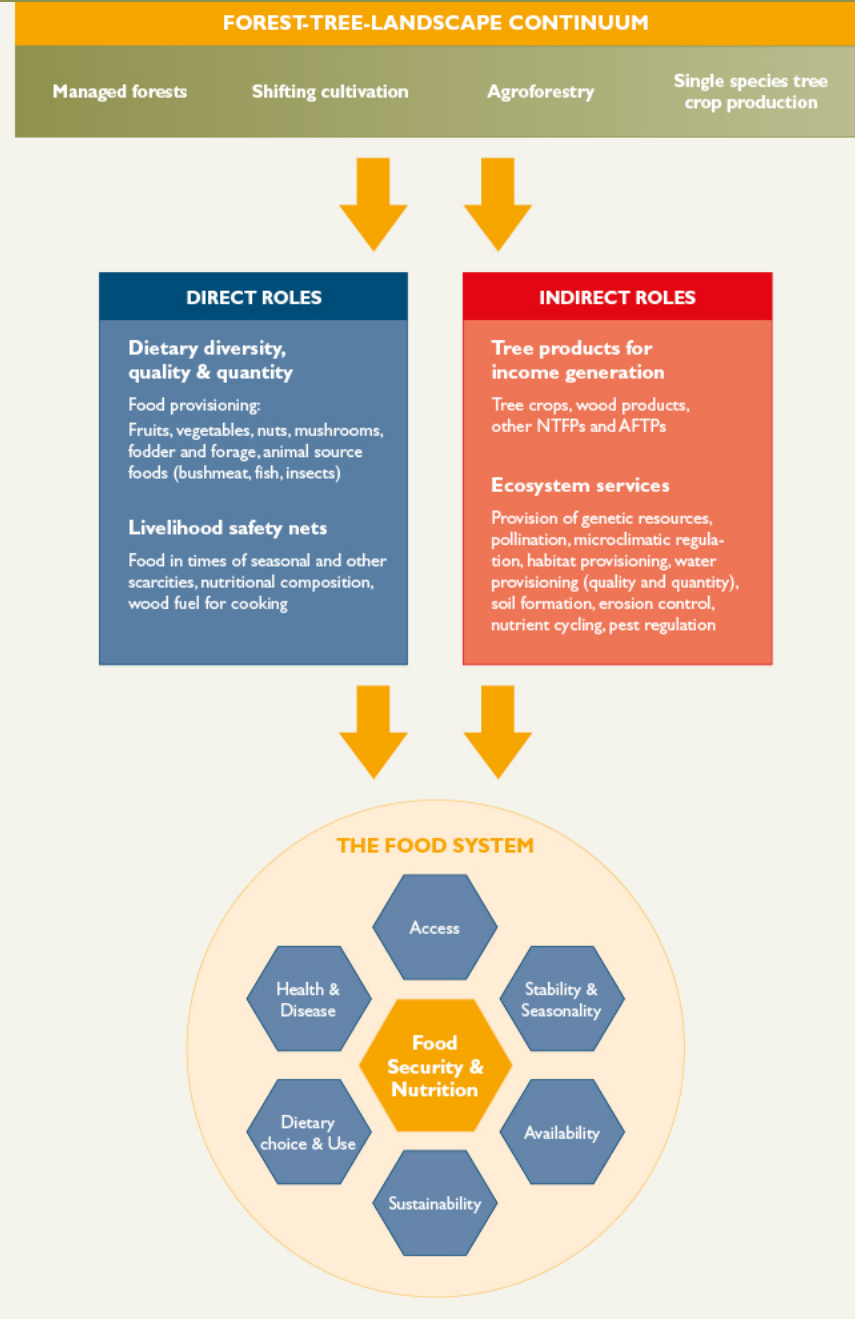


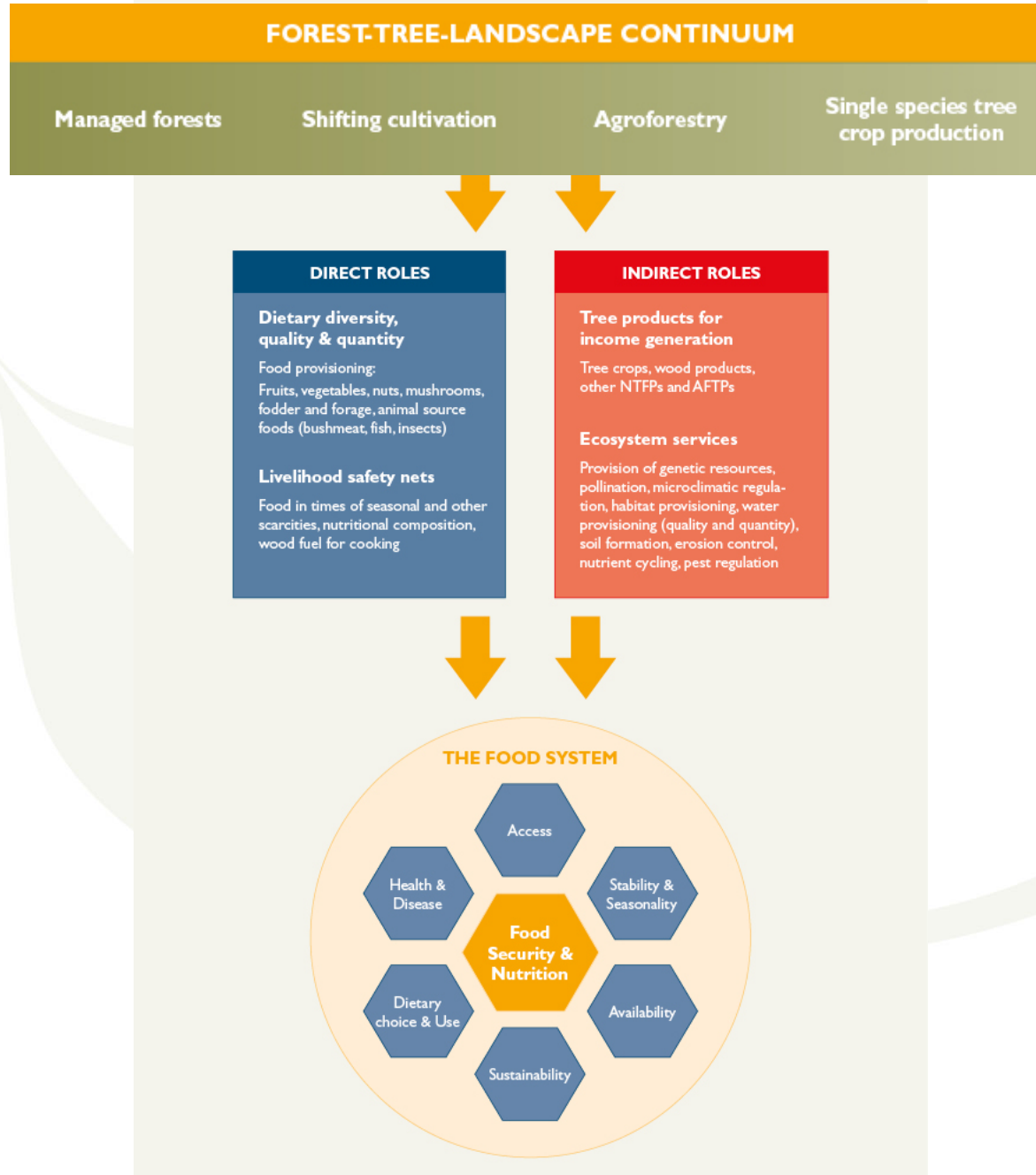














The direct and indirect roles of forests and tree-based systems for food security and nutrition

Figure 1.4





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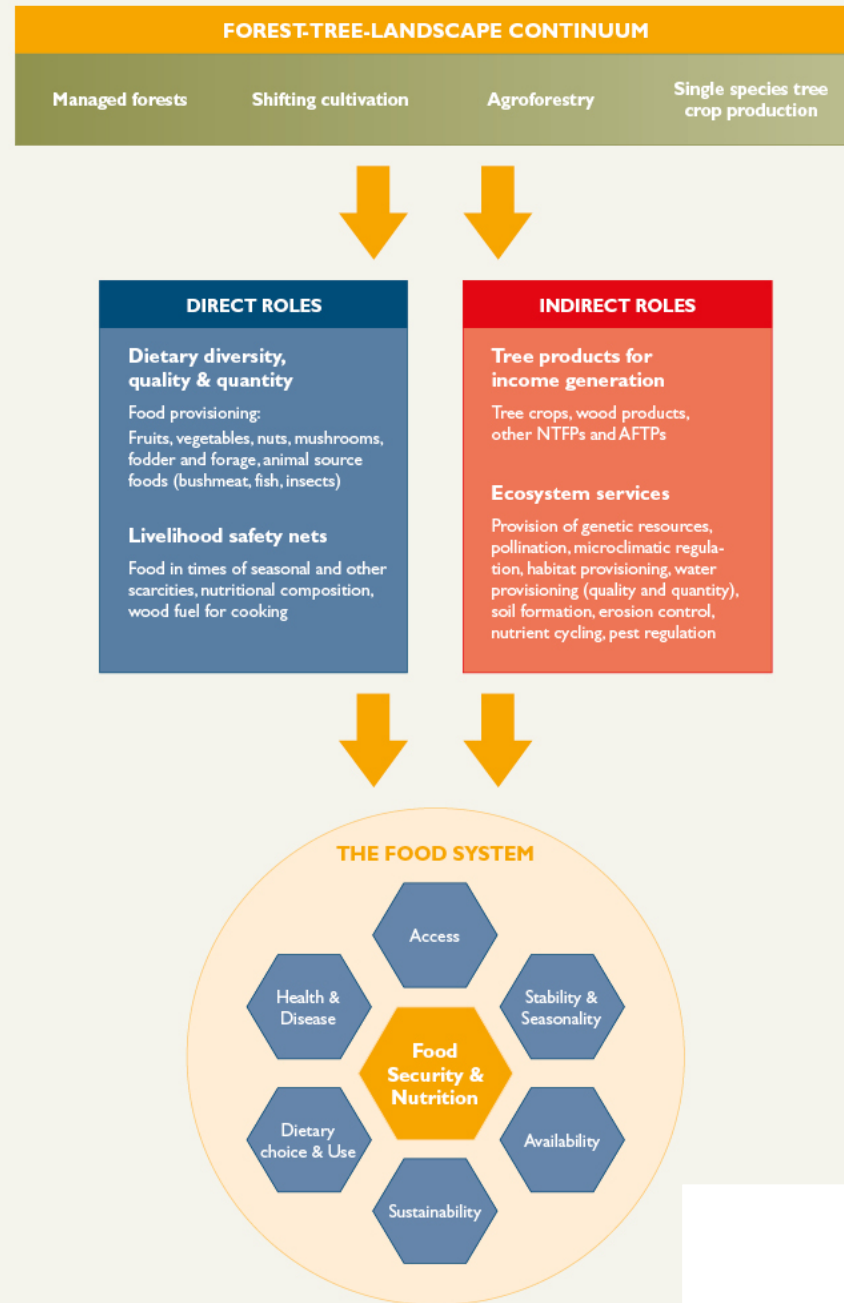
Figure 1.4





The direct and indirect roles of forests and tree-based systems for food security and nutrition

Figure 1.4



## KEY MESSAGES

- Forests and trees matter for food security and nutrition
- Integrated governance is necessary for multi-functional landscapes
- Securing tenure and local control is essential for forests and food security
- There is a need to reimagine forests, food security and nutrition, to recognise the complementary role of production systems and conservation across landscapes



## FOCUS ON DRYLAND SYSTEMS

- Forests and tree-based systems are particularly critical for food security and nutrition for the poorest and the most vulnerable, including women
- Non-timber forest products and agroforestry tree products are important sources of revenue to local people
- Tree-based incomes offer a considerably more diversified livelihood portfolio and less risks than single commodity crops
- Forests and tree-based systems provide ecosystem services essential for staple crop production and a range of edible plants, e.g. pollinators
- Advantages over permanent (crop) agriculture: diversity of food products and adaptability to a broader range of environmental conditions (climate change) and changing socio-economic conditions



## FOCUS ON DRYLAND SYSTEMS

- Land Degradation Neutrality – focus on long term rehabilitation and sustainable use
- Conservation and restoration in human dominated ecosystems must strengthen connections between agriculture and biodiversity – tree-based agriculture as an opportunity
- Develop optimal portfolios of species across agricultural-forestry landscapes (including agroforestry) that best support communities' nutrition needs year-round - cultivation of a wide range of foods, including tree fruits and vegetables
- Support and promote farmer managed natural regeneration (FMNR) providing benefits for staple crop production and forested landscapes
- Develop “nutrient-sensitive” production systems and value chains which deliver food & nutrition from enhanced productivity of land assets





Forthcoming November 2015

# Forests and Food

Addressing Hunger and Nutrition  
Across Sustainable Landscapes



EDITED BY BHASKAR VIRA, CHRISTOPH WILDBURGER  
AND STEPHANIE MANSOURIAN



<http://www.iufro.org/science/gfep>



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