



MINUTES OF THE MEETING

20 February 2020

The Global Forest Expert Panel (GFEP) on Forests and Poverty convened for the second time from 29-31 January 2020 at the campus of the World Agroforestry Centre (ICRAF) in Nairobi, Kenya. The meeting was kindly hosted by CIFOR-ICRAF, including financial support to local logistics by the CGIAR Research Program on Forests, Trees and Agroforestry (FTA). Twenty-one participants, including seventeen Panel Members and the GFEP team attended the meeting. It was moderated by GFEP Coordinator Christoph Wildburger and the Scientific Chair of the assessment, Daniel C. Miller. A full list of participants is annexed to the minutes.

1) Opening of the Meeting

Document: Draft Agenda – 2nd Panel Meeting of GFEP on Forests and Poverty

Christoph Wildburger, GFEP Coordinator, opened the meeting and welcomed the participants on behalf of the GFEP initiative and the International Union of Forest Research Organizations (IUFRO). He then gave the floor to Ramni Jamnadass, Theme Leader Tree Productivity & Diversity of CIFOR-ICRAF for her welcoming remarks on behalf of the host of the meeting. She informed the participants about the landscape approach of CIFOR-ICRAF and highlighted the work done by the organization related to forests and poverty, notably on tree genetic resources, productivity and resilience. Lastly, she wished the participants a successful meeting and stay in Nairobi.

In his introductory remarks Christoph Wildburger briefly explained the background of the meeting and introduced the GFEP team. Mr Wildburger then set out the draft agenda of the meeting as well as the organization of work.

2) Brief Introduction of Participants

Participants introduced themselves in a *tour de table*. Andre Purret, GFEP project manager, conveyed regrets from Panel Members who could not attend the meeting. The list of participants, annexed to the minutes, also includes the names and affiliations of non-participating Panel Members.

3) Overview on State of the Assessment by the Expert Panel Chair

Daniel C. Miller as the Scientific Chair of the Expert Panel gave a brief overview on the drafting of the assessment report leading up to the meeting in Nairobi and issues to be considered in further developing the manuscripts. He thanked all Panel Members for their continuous commitment and hard work during the last months. Mr Miller then outlined the main goals for the meeting and looked forward to fruitful outcomes.

4) Presentations from Chapter Teams by CLAs, followed by General Discussion on Draft Texts and Chapter Alignment

The Coordinating Lead Authors (CLAs) of each chapter presented the status and progress on their chapters. Participants discussed questions emerging from the drafting, including chapter structures, the allocation of thematic sections, and information gaps.

5) General Discussion on Cross-cutting Issues

The Panel discussed cross-cutting issues arising from the presentation of chapter drafts, especially the use of terms and related definitions, the alignment of terminology between the chapters, matters of scale, and emerging questions of scope.

6) Break-out Groups

The participants of the meeting split into break-out groups to further elaborate the development and content of the various chapters.

7) Reporting Back from Break-out Groups by Coordinating Lead Authors

The CLAs of chapters reported the outcomes of their work in break-out groups to the plenary.

8) Discussion of Issues arising

The Panel discussed the reports from the break-out groups and emerging issues, including the streamlining of conceptual approaches, overlaps between chapters and methodological issues.

9) Break-out Groups

Chapter teams continued to work on their chapters in the break-out groups. The groups were formed based on the need to discuss overlaps between specific chapters.

10) Reporting back from Break-out Groups by Coordinating Lead Authors

The CLAs of chapters reported the outcomes of their work in break-out groups to the plenary.

11) Break-out Groups

Chapter teams continued to work on their chapters in the break-out groups.

As a result of the group discussions, the participants decided to slightly revise the order of the chapters as well as the guiding questions of chapters as follows:

- **Introduction: Forests, Trees, and Poverty**
Can forests and tree-based systems contribute to poverty reduction?
- **Key Concepts in Forest-Poverty Dynamics**
How do we define forest-poverty dynamics in this report? What are the key considerations for forest-poverty dynamics as they relate to poverty alleviation?
- **Forest-poverty dynamics: current state of knowledge**
How do forests and tree-based landscapes affect poverty and wellbeing of the poor?
- **Levers for influencing the factors, processes, and conditions related to forests and tree-based landscapes that constrain or enable poverty reduction**
What evidence exists on the effectiveness of different levers at alleviating poverty in forests and tree-based landscapes?
- **Proximate Causes and Underlying Conditions in Forest-Poverty Dynamics**
What factors, processes and conditions constrain/enable levers of change on the poverty-forests link, and how they might evolve?
- **Alleviating Poverty, Sustaining Forests: Policy Options and Prospects**
What are some large global trends that are likely to influence poverty in forested landscapes? What priority strategies/levers of change and actors can maximize enabling conditions to sustain forests and alleviate poverty given these trends?
- **Conclusions**
What are the key messages and knowledge gaps?

12) Organization of Work

Participants discussed the timeline of the assessment following the Nairobi meeting, and confirmed the dates of important deadlines as well as the 3rd meeting of the Expert Panel (15-17 April 2020, Vienna, Austria).

The following revised timeline for the assessment was agreed in Nairobi:

Scoping Meeting - GFEP Forests and Poverty (Rome, Italy)	23 – 24 May 2019
Terms of Reference for the Expert Panel	June 2019
Selecting members of the GFEP Expert Panel	June/July 2019
1 st meeting of the Expert Panel (Ann Arbor, Michigan, USA)	27 – 29 August 2019
Detailed chapter outlines	30 September 2019
First draft manuscripts of chapters	20 December 2019
2 nd meeting of the Expert Panel (Nairobi/Vienna)	29 – 31 January 2020
Second draft of chapters for peer review	29 February 2020
Peer review process of chapters	06 – 30 March 2020
3 rd meeting of the Expert Panel (Vienna, Austria)	15 – 17 April 2020
Final revision of the chapters	End of April 2020
Editing of the Assessment Report	May - June 2020
Development and editing of Policy Brief	May - June 2020
Layout of the Assessment Report and Policy Brief	July 2020
Printing the Assessment Report and Policy Brief	August 2020
Launch – 75 th session of the UN General Assembly (UNGA 75), New York City, USA.	15 – 30 September 2020

The GFEP team informed the participants about the plans for launching the assessment report and related policy brief during the 75th session of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA-75). Furthermore, possible outreach activities were discussed.

GFEP Editor, Stephanie Mansourian, explained the peer review process, starting on 06 March 2020. She explained that it will be a double-blind peer/expert review, including both renowned scientists as well as experts from key international organizations working on the topic.

The group also discussed additional options for products that would be based on the outcomes of the assessment (e.g. a journal article, thematical edition of a journal, open-source book by different publisher etc.).

In a discussion on further input to the drafting, some chapters indicated that they would benefit from additional contributing authors on specific research topics. It was agreed to contact selected scientists.

The GFEP team reminded participants about the technical support to the Panel, such as the GFEP website and the Google Drive for documents. It was noted that relevant photos of good quality will be needed during the layout design phase of the report and that these could be uploaded on the Google Drive.

Additionally, the group had a discussion on the figures and graphs to be included in the chapters. The GFEP management team reported that it will employ a graphic designer who can re-design and format respective sketches, and ensure the overall uniform design of these elements throughout the report.

13) Closing Remarks and Closure of the Meeting

Daniel C. Miller as the Chair of the assessment thanked participants for their efforts and hard work. He reminded Panel Members to finalize their chapter manuscripts by 29 February in order to meet the peer review deadlines. He wished everyone a safe journey home and looked forward to finalizing the drafting process in spring 2020.

On behalf of IUFRO and the GFEP team, Christoph Wildburger thanked the participants for their strong commitment, looked forward to seeing everyone again during the 3rd Expert Panel Meeting in Vienna, and closed the meeting.

ANNEX I: List of Participants

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