

## **14<sup>th</sup> meeting of the GBEP Task Force on Sustainability**

***FAO Headquarters, Lebanon Room D-209 Bis***

Rome, 1 December 2016

### **Co-Chairs Conclusions**

The GBEP Task Force on Sustainability (TFS) held its 14<sup>th</sup> meeting on 1 December 2016 at FAO Headquarters in Rome.

Argentina, Brazil, Cambodia, Egypt, Ethiopia, Germany, Ghana, Italy, Japan, Paraguay, Spain, Sweden, United States of America, Vietnam, European Commission, EUBIA, FAO, IEA Bioenergy, IRENA and UNEP participated in the meeting as Partners and Observers.

### **Opening of the Task Force on Sustainability**

The Co-Chairs of the Task Force on Sustainability, Mr. Sven-Olov Ericson from Sweden and Mr. Kwabena Ampadu Otu-Danquah from Ghana, welcomed participants and officially adopted the meeting's agenda. Mr. Kwabena Ampadu Otu-Danquah gave a presentation on the background of the TFS, the ongoing work and the future roadmap.

There were four main discussion points that were raised at the meeting. These are summarised below.

#### ***1. Sub-group re-established***

Technical discussions will start on each of the indicators at sub-group level to identify specific implementation issues. To assist with tackling these issues related to single indicators, the Economic, Environmental and Social sub-groups of the TFS were reopened under the leadership of:

- Germany and UNEP (Environmental);
- FAO and Argentina (Social); and
- Italy and Japan (Economic).

The sub-groups will mainly work electronically via e-groups and teleconferences if need be. The GBEP Secretariat request expression of interest to join the sub-groups by the 31 December 2016, in order to support sub-group leaders to create electronic groups. It was agreed that experts who have worked on implementation in-country should also be included in the sub-groups so that they may share their invaluable experiences. The e-groups will be operational starting from January 2017.

The GBEP Secretariat will re-circulate the Scope of Work of the TFS that contains the table on country experiences of the implementation of the indicators and will represent the basis for the work of the sub-groups.

As soon as established, the sub-groups will internally decide their work plan with a view to update the Task Force at the 15<sup>th</sup> Meeting to be held in Rome in November 2017.

## ***2. Attribution paper***

An outline of a technical report on Attribution, kindly contributed by Germany, was presented at the meeting and its content discussed. It is to be based on templates compiled by AG2 on lessons learned from the implementation in eight countries. This will then feed into the guidance provided in the Implementation Guide.

Given that the attribution issue is cross-cutting to all indicators, this work will cover all sub-groups and their work on the respective indicators.

## ***3. SDGs***

The linkages between the SDGs and GSIs were presented, both in terms of how the GSIs could contribute to the SDGs and vice versa. A zero-draft of a technical paper on the relation between SDGs and GSIs, kindly contributed by Germany, was therefore presented at the meeting. Contributions and inputs from Partners and Observers on this technical paper are welcome.

The leading Partner for this technical paper will explore the possibility to involve UNESCO in the SDG work, and specifically on the water related indicators.

## ***4. Roadmap and modus operandi***

Germany was praised for their strong support to the Task Force on Sustainability and specifically, not only on their leadership on the technical drafts on Attribution and the linkages between SDGs and GSIs, but also in generously sponsoring the following related GBEP events:

- Workshop on linkages between SDGs and GSIs (June/July 2017) at UN Campus (Bonn) to discuss interim results of the technical paper, with the view to have a final draft before 15th TFS meeting November 2017 (Rome).
- Workshop on the Implementation Guide, including the issue of attribution of impacts to bioenergy, to be held back-to-back to the GBEP regular meetings (November 2017).
- Workshop on the Implementation Guide, including the issue of attribution of impacts to bioenergy, to be held in Bonn mid-2018, if deemed necessary.

The Task Force's work will be conducted primarily via email and teleconference. Whenever physical meetings are required, remote participation will be facilitated as a priority.

## **Conclusions and next steps**

- **The three sub-groups were re-opened** and the GBEP Secretariat requests expression of interest to join the sub-groups by the 31 December 2016, in order to support sub-group leaders to create electronic groups. The e-groups will be operational starting from January 2017.

The GBEP Secretariat will re-circulate the Scope of Work of the TFS that contains the table on country experiences of the implementation of the GBEP indicators and will represent the basis for the work of the sub-groups.

- The following **three events will be organized during 2017/2018** (kindly sponsored by Germany) to support the work of the TFS:

- Workshop on linkages between SDGs and GSIs (June/July 2017) at UN Campus (Bonn) to discuss interim results on the technical paper.
- Workshop on the Implementation Guide, back-to-back to the GBEP regular meetings (November 2017).
- Workshop on the Implementation Guide, to be held in Bonn mid-2018, if deemed necessary.