

## The strategic way of integrating forestry into recovery support measures in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, Build Back Better with Forests

**Date and time: Monday, 12, October 2020, 12:00-13:00 CEST**

### SESSION OUTLINE

The COVID-19 pandemic has added another dimension of urgency to tackle global challenges of our time such as climate change, biodiversity loss and inequity. The focus of responding to this pandemic should not only be to strengthen health systems and economies but also to make ecosystems more resilient. This session will discuss how forest-related measures and initiatives can be integrated into recovery strategies responding to the pandemic, reflecting on related challenges and opportunities.

### Session objectives

The objective of the session is to provide ideas for the way forward by integrating forestry into recovery strategies from the COVID 19 pandemic building a more resilient and sustainable society. It builds on the outcomes of the COVID-19 Forestry Webinar Week, 22-25 June 2020 as well as at the outcomes of both the 25<sup>th</sup> session of the Committee on Forestry (COFO25) and other World Forest Week (WFW) events in relation to COVID-19. It also discusses the role and function of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests (CPF) in COVID-19 recovery programmes. The Joint CPF statement on COVID-19 serves as a background to this session.

### Framing questions

1. What are immediate challenges in COVID-19 recovery, which forestry and other nature-based measures can contribute to at this stage?
2. For building a more resilient and sustainable society against climate change and emerging infectious diseases such as COVID-19, what are key challenges and opportunities to forestry as well as to your organizations?
3. How should the CPF and its members respond to the COVID-19 pandemic, strategically integrating forest issues into recovery measures in the mid and long-term?

## Programme

- Opening of the Session
- Keynote speech: H.E. Mr Malik Amin Aslam, Federal Minister of Climate Change and Adviser to the Prime Minister, Pakistan [10 min]
- FAO's response to COVID-19 from the forestry angle, Ms Mette Wilkie, FAO [10 min]
- Moderated panel discussion [30 min]
  - Mr John Parrotta, IUFRO
  - Mr Hossein Moeini-Meybodi, UNFF
  - Ms Myrna Cunningham Kain, Forest Farm Facility Steering Committee
  - Moderator: Mr Hiroto Mitsugi
- Closing of the Session, Mr Ewald Rametsteiner, FAO

**Languages:** Simultaneous interpretation in English, French and Spanish

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