

# GFOI joint components meeting 2023

**Monday, 8. May 2023**

**Organized by the Data, R&D, MGD and Capacity Building Components preceding the GFOI Plenary 9-11. May 2023 at FAO HQ in Rome**

## Background

The Global Forest Observations Initiative (GFOI) convenes a GFOI Plenary every few years and brings together the global forest monitoring community of who support tropical countries in their forest-related Measurement, Reporting and Verification (MRV) procedures. The Plenary aims to exchange information and ideas, review progress and identify new opportunities for assisting countries to enhance their forest monitoring capabilities to enable better forest management and ultimately reduce of greenhouse gas emissions. After three years of deferred, then cancelled and ultimately only virtual events, the GFOI Plenary is back as hybrid event in 2023 and will take place from 9 to 11 May 2023 at the Headquarters of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) in Rome and online (see <https://www.fao.org/gfoi/plenaries/plenary-2023/en/>).

The annual GFOI Plenary also offers the opportunity for the various GFOI components (<https://www.fao.org/gfoi/components/en/>) to meet, discuss progress and agree on the next steps for GFOI implementation; in particular for topics that need to be tackled across GFOI components. Thus, GFOI is organizing a components meeting on the day preceding the plenary (8. May 2023).

## Goals

To encourage collaboration among components, a joint meeting is organized by the GFOI Data, R&D and Capacity Building Components planned to be held for most of that day. The goals of this joint meeting are to:

- Foster collaboration among GFOI components so that they can work more effectively together.
- Exchange on recent progress, discuss plans and gather feedback from countries and GFOI partners to increase the effectiveness of the component's efforts.
- Explore pathways forward to disseminate new data, science or implementation advice through the GFOI Family of Resources

It was decided to focus on a specific thematic area that is of high importance for different components and where it is important to (1) update each other and (2) plan for the next steps to move this topic forward together. This thematic area is the improvement of country emission factors and uncertainty estimation through the combination of National Forest Inventory (NFI) and space-based biomass estimation. This topic has already been subject to discussions during the GFOI Components meeting in October 2022 and during the GFOI Capacity Building Summit in January 2023. One aim is to receive an update on the specific activities ongoing in the various components, including:



## GFOI components meeting on Monday, 8. May 2023

1. Data component: ground-data review & recent progress on NFIs, CEOS space-based biomass missions and estimation/harmonization activities, GEOTREES
2. R&D component: developing and demonstrating different approaches and tools for better space-based and NFI data integration in several country circumstances
3. Capacity building component: different country requests for improving emission factor estimation and uncertainty analysis, need for better guidance and approaches for capacity development activities
4. MGD component: update and planned activities for the work of the MGD and/or related modules

During the meeting, each component will present their progress and plans, and discuss them together with the other components and interested parties. The results should be a concerted action plan on how to move forward as GFOI on this topic in terms of further expert synthesis towards improve guidance (i.e. expert meetings), responding to country requests, streamlining approaches for country capacity development, refining the MGD and/or updating R&D priorities for the years to come.

The joint component scheduled for morning and early afternoon (9am-3.30 pm) is followed by individual component meetings for the later part of the afternoon (3/4-6pm).

### Dates

The meeting will be held on 8. May January 2023, with the GFOI plenary to follow immediately afterwards at the same venue:

- Joint Data, R&D, Capacity Building components meeting: Monday May 8, 2023.
- GFOI plenary: Tuesday – Thursday May 9 to 11, 2023

### Location

The joint components meeting will be held at FAO HQ in Rome. The components meeting is held in the German Room.

Virtual participation could be arranged (tbc with Tom).

### Organizers

Data component Sarah Goeking (USFS) and Chris Barnes (USGS/CEOS)

R&D component: Martin Herold (GFZ), Daniela Requena (WUR), and Frank-Martin Seifert (ESA)

Capacity building component: Sylvia Wilson (USGS), Jennifer Smith, USFS and Inge Jonckheere (FAO)

MGD component: Maria Sanz (BC3) and Nikki Fitzgerald (DCCEEW)

Thomas Harvey – GFOI Secretariat

### Participants

The number of participants is estimated to be around 50 given the available room capacity and to encourage lively discussions:

Country participants that have interest in the topic: ~20

Data, R&D, Capacity Building, MGD component experts: 5-7 per component (~25 in total)

GFOI leads and FAO: ~7-10



## Detailed agenda

### Monday 8. May 2023 (FAO, German room)

Session	Time	Presenter(s)
Welcome and objectives	9 am – 9.30 am	Herold/Wilson/Jonckheere
<b>Data and R&amp;D presentations (chair: Sara Goeking, Chris Barnes)</b>		
Ground data review and NFI progress (15 min presentation + 5 min discussion)	9.30 – 9.50 am	Goeking, Lindquist
CEOS space-based biomass efforts (15 min presentation + 5 min discussion), incl. GEOTREES, CEOS biomass protocol	9.50 – 10.10 am	Hunka, Seifert, Barnes, Ochiai
Space-biomass map and NFI integration approaches (15 min presentation + 5 min discussion)	10.10 – 10.30 am	Malaga, Requena
<b>Coffee Break</b>	<b>10:30 - 11:00am</b>	
<b>Presentation/discussion on country case studies (chair: D. Requena, M. Herold)</b>		
Paraguay case study (15 min presentation + 5 min discussion)	11.00 – 11.20 am	Wilson, Serafini
Peru (15 min presentation + 5 min discussion)	11.20 – 11.40 am	Salcedo
Mozambique (15 min presentation + 5 min discussion)	11.40 – 12.00 pm	Aguilar
<b>Discussion / wrap up of morning session</b>	<b>12:00- 12:30pm</b>	Moderator: D. Requena
<b>Lunch</b>	<b>12:30 –13:30pm</b>	
<b>MGD component session (lead: M. Sanz, N. Fitzgerald)</b>		
MGD updates and plans	13.30 – 14.00 pm	M. Sanz, N. Fitzgerald
<b>Capacity building component session (lead: S. Wilson, I. Jonckheere, J. Smith)</b>		
Capacity Building Components (FAO, SilvaCarbon)	14.00 – 14.20 pm	Jonckheere, Smith
Other GFOI programs	14.20 - 15.00 pm	GIZ, WB, UK, Australia
<b>Discussion - planning for next steps</b>	15.00 – 15.45 pm	Moderator: S. Wilson / M. Herold
<b>Coffee break</b>	<b>15:45 – 16:00pm</b>	
Individual components meeting (separate rooms), MGD meeting already starts at 3 pm: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Capacity Building Component – stay in the German Room</li> <li>Data Component meeting – Nigeria Room</li> <li>MGD AG meeting (15:00 – 18:00) – Queen Juliana Room</li> <li>R&amp;D Component meeting – Mexico Room</li> </ul>	16:00 – 18:00pm	

