

Template for submission of scientific and technical comments on Appendix 2 of the recommendation adopted by the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice for the Resumed Session of its twenty-fourth meeting

TEMPLATE FOR COMMENTS

Review comments on Appendix 2 of the present recommendation	
Scope of this template for comments	Template for submitting comments in accordance with recommendation CBD/SBSTTA/REC/24/2, paragraph 2, where the Executive Secretary of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), under the guidance of the Bureau of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice (SBSTTA), invites Parties, other Governments and relevant stakeholders to submit views on Appendix 2 of the recommendation.
<i>Contact information</i>	
Party/Government/Observer	Party
Party/Government/Observer representative	The Netherlands
Comments	
<p>Please provide any general comments on the Appendix 2.</p> <p>The Netherlands strongly supports the inclusion of 'Forest area as a proportion of total land area' as a headline indicator. This would help address the current monitoring gap in the framework for reducing deforestation while simultaneously also strengthening the link with the SDGs. This indicator is similar to SDG indicator 15.1.1. The indicator is furthermore ready to use, feasible to disaggregate from the global to the national level and is relevant to goal A and target 3 - thus meriting its promotion to headline indicator.</p> <p>The Netherlands advocates for the inclusion of 'tree cover loss' as an additional headline indicator in the monitoring framework under goal A (and target 3 in particular), next to the proposed headline indicator of 'Forest area as a proportion of total land area'. 'Tree cover loss' is increasingly seen as the indicator best capturing deforestation. Its methodological basis is robust and scientifically proven, the required data is readily available and it is feasible to disaggregate from the global to national level. Tree cover loss, finally, includes all types of terrestrial ecosystems, next to only forests, and provides insights on forest fragmentation.</p>	