

Institutionalisation of forest data:

Establishing legal frameworks for sustainable forest monitoring in REDD+ countries

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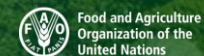
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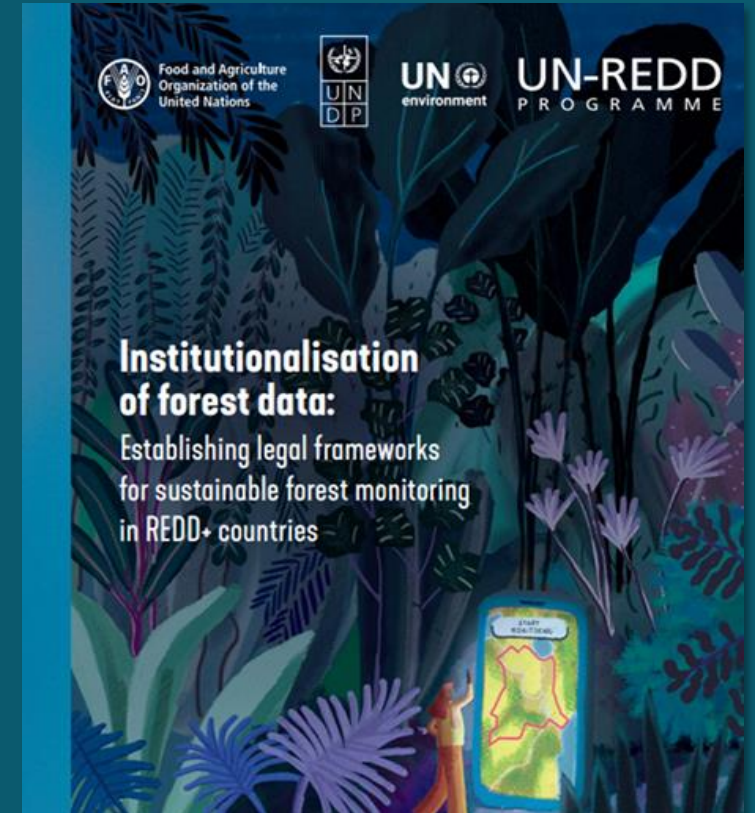
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Sustainable NFMS and the role of the law: Questions & Answers

- Why legal and institutional arrangements are needed?
- What steps to follow to adopt an NFMS legal instrument?
- What are the types of instruments to regulate NFMS?
- Case studies and successful stories



Link to the publication:

<http://www.fao.org/3/CB3525EN/CB3525EN.pdf>

Why legal and institutional arrangements are needed?

- According to the **Voluntary Guidelines on National Forest Monitoring**, the process of ‘institutionalising’ an NFMS means that it is **formally, firmly and permanently embedded** within a country’s **forest administration**
- Setting up a **legal basis, financial commitment** and a **permanent institutional framework** is crucial, to ensure efficient implementation and operation.
- A **robustly institutionalised NFMS** can help to ensure there is **ownership, permanency in data collection**, and a **clear governance structure** defining the roles of the different entities involved in an NFMS and related information systems is adopted, among others.



Legal challenges for NFMS institutionalisation

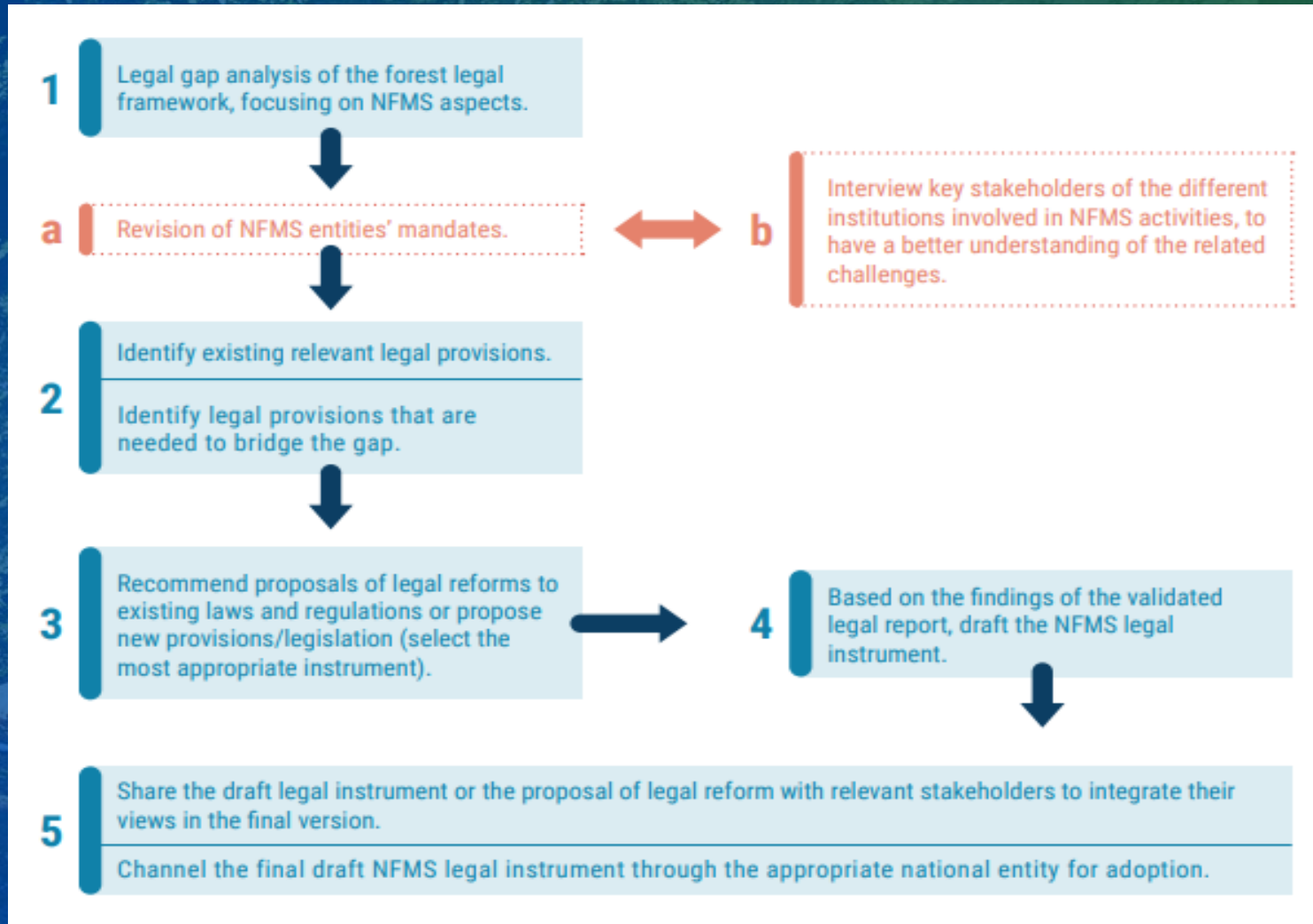


- Concerns about distortion or misuse of data and information, lack of trust, cost-related issues, **ambiguous institutional mandates** and unclear legal frameworks are often at the root of data accessibility challenges
- While informal solutions sometimes produce results, they are generally unreliable and unsustainable,
- In addition, weak information on data-sharing systems, or lack of it, may result in duplication of efforts.



A **firmly institutionalized NFMS** helps to address a **number of challenges** related to accessibility, data-sharing and transparency.

What steps to follow to adopt an NFMS legal instrument?



Checklist of relevant elements in NFMS legal instruments

Checklist of the relevant elements in NFMS legal instruments

Clear definitions and concepts

Inclusion of principles

Designation of responsible entities and functions

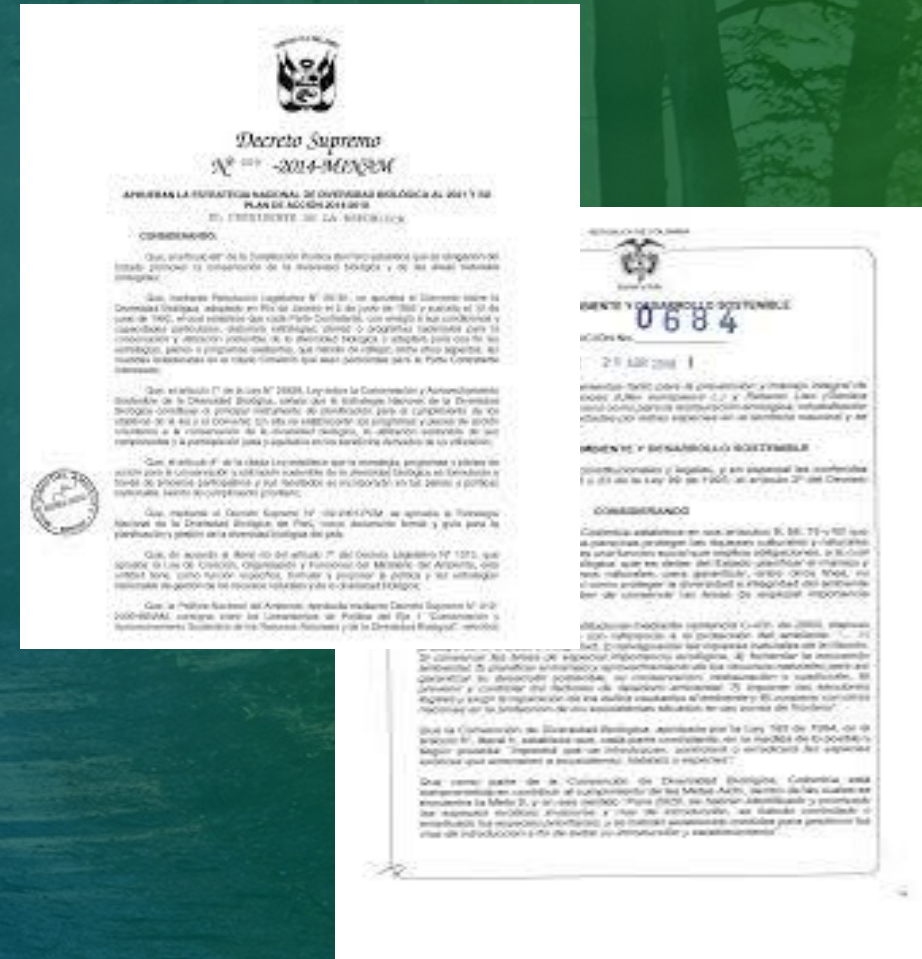
Involvement of other entities key stakeholders

Coordination mechanisms

Governance structure

Integrated methodological aspects

Financial sustainability



What are the types of instruments to regulate an NFMS?

Each country has its own legal order, which forms an integral part of its legal system and is based on its own sources of law.



Case studies from Latin America:

Processes and contents related to an NFMS legal instrument

- **Colombia:** A coordinated approach provides a sound basis for NFMS development
- **Honduras:** Formal task-sharing generates consistent flow of information for forest monitoring
- **Ecuador:** Institutional guidelines for integrated forest management and international compliance



Country cases from Asia-Pacific and Africa:

Specific aspects linked to the development of an NFMS legal instrument:

- **Sri Lanka and Uganda:** Developing a data-sharing agreement for the NFMS



- **The Democratic Republic of Congo:** Regular consultations to shape an effective NFMS strategy



THANK YOU

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