

STRATEGIC PLAN

OECD FOREST SEED AND PLANT SCHEME



Strategic Plan of the OECD Forest Seed and Plant Scheme

1. Background

1. Delegates at the 2017 Annual Meeting discussed the possible review of the 2009 Strategic Plan of the OECD Forest Seed and Plant Scheme [[TAD/CA/F\(2009\)2/REV1](#)]. Since its adoption, the Scheme has reached most strategic aims mentioned in the document and started to develop new projects. Therefore, it is timely to review the mission statement and vision of the programme as well as the strategic aims to ensure that the direction of the work of the OECD Forest Seed and Plant Scheme reflects the needs and expectations of participating countries.
2. A Sub-Working Group was established to facilitate the work on the revision of the Strategic Plan. The members are the Secretariat (leader), France, Kenya, the European Commission and ISTA.
3. The sub-working group developed a first draft of the Strategic Plan and circulated to the Technical Working Group Meeting held on 24-25 April 2018 in Slovenia. During this meeting, delegates discussed the document in details. They made some modifications particularly in the mission statement and vision. The meeting supported the document with those changes. Delegates also agreed to circulate draft Strategic Plan, as it was modified to all delegates for further written comments [[TAD/CA/F/RD\(2018\)2](#); [TAD/CA/F/M\(2018\)1](#)].
4. The Secretariat after the TWG meeting circulated the document to all delegations. Five countries returned the draft with comments. These comments were also considered in this draft Strategic Plan circulated to the 2018 Annual Meeting.
5. In 2018, the Annual Meeting approved the Strategic Plan. A detailed action plan for the delivery of the Strategic Plan (including prioritisation, budget, timelines and progress indicators) was developed the following year.

2. STRATEGIC PLAN OF THE OECD FOREST SEED AND PLANT SCHEME

Mission Statement:

The OECD Forest Seed and Plant Scheme facilitates the international trade of forest reproductive material through harmonised standards certifying its provenance, identity, quality and traceability, thus contributing to the sustainable use of valuable forest genetic resources.

Mission Vision:

Global certification system for forest reproductive material supporting the development of a productive, sustainable and resilient forest sector

Slogan:

Planting sustainable forests for the future

1. The aim of the Strategic Plan is to strengthen further the relevance of the OECD Forest Seed and Plant Scheme and its value to participating countries by identifying strategic areas of interest to be included, developed or improved while implementing the OECD Forest Seed and Plant Scheme.

2. The representatives of the National Designated Authorities at the 2018 Annual Meeting agreed on the following **strategic aims** for the future focus of the OECD Forest Seed and Plant Scheme:

- A. Ensure integrity of the Scheme**
- B. Maintain state-of-the-art standards**
- C. Increase awareness of the value of the Scheme**
- D. Facilitate participation in the Scheme**

3. The implementation and timeframe, as well as resource requirements of the operational objectives related to strategic aims outlined in the Strategic Plan are subjects of the OECD Forest Seed Scheme Action Plan and the OECD Forest Seed Scheme Programme of Work and Budget.

A) Ensure integrity of the Scheme

- **Operational objectives:**
 - Support effective, harmonised and sustainable implementation of the OECD Forest Seed and Plant Scheme in participating countries.

- Monitor the implementation of the OECD Forest Seed and Plant Scheme in participating countries by undertaking regular reviews.
- Make better use of FRM trade and basic material data for improving the OECD Forest Seed and Plant Scheme
- Develop guidelines on FRM certification and trade to ensure the harmonised application of the OECD Forest Seed and Plant Scheme in participating countries
- Encourage and support capacity building so that participating countries are more able to ensure the integrity of the OECD Forest Seed and Plant Scheme domestically.
- Support FRM certification as a tool to facilitate traceability and to prevent fraud along the supply chain.

B) Maintain state-of-the-art standards

- **Operational objectives:**

- Proactively consider new developments in the forestry sector and other related areas and identify their impact on the OECD Forest Seed and Plant Scheme as well as the potential need for these changes to be reflected in updated Rules and Regulations of the Forest Scheme and related documents.
- Ensure that the standards and procedures are responsive to changing market conditions in world forest reproductive material trade.
- Strengthen coordination with other areas related to FRM trade (e.g. plant health issues).
- Regularly review the scope of coverage of the OECD Forest Seed and Plant Scheme.

C) Increase awareness of the value of the OECD Forest Seed and Plant Scheme

- **Operational objectives**

- Enhance the exchange and sharing of experiences and information on the OECD Forest Seed and Plant Scheme at Annual Meetings, FRM-related seminars and webinars as well as through other relevant regional/international events and conferences.
- Develop a communication strategy for the OECD Forest Seed and Plant Scheme including promotional tools and material to (i) help stakeholders including National Designated Authorities to explain the value of the OECD Forest Seed and Plant Scheme and raise awareness domestically; and (ii) assist potential new participating countries.
- Translate OECD FRM Rules and Regulations and related documents into other languages of interest for participating countries.

- Cooperate with other forest-related organisations to improve global FRM trade.
- Strive to ensure that the role of the FRM certification is recognised in key areas of policy (e.g., climate change, biodiversity conservation, plant health).
- Inform policy makers of the key role of the OECD Forest Seed and Plant Scheme in the FRM supply chain and their contribution to the development of a productive, sustainable and resilient forest sector.

D) Facilitate participation in the OECD Forest Seed and Plant Scheme

- **Operational objectives**

- Provide a straightforward application process to participate in the OECD Forest Seed and Plant Scheme (e.g., through clear guidelines, with clear expectations).
- Provide the opportunity for a potential candidate member country to participate as an observer for a limited period.
- Support specific capacity building initiatives.
- Enhance collaboration with international and regional organisations involved in the FRM supply chain.