

Building a vision: A nature-positive trade for sustainable agriculture and inclusive socio-economic development

Experiences and best practices on VSS: from UNEP Regional Multistakeholder Consultations in Asia, Africa and Latin America

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UNEP Regional Consultations: Trade for sustainable agriculture, biodiversity and sustainable development



- Reports and more information:**
Regional stakeholder consultations in
- [Latin America and the Caribbean](#)
 - [Asia](#)
 - [Africa](#)

Global/Intra-regional insights: challenges, priorities and way forward for VSS for biodiversity

1. Challenges

- Lack of **safety nets, unfair pricing structures**
- **Land tenure legality:** High costs and bureaucracy, impacting access to financing mechanisms (e.g. bank loans)
- **Traceability systems:** High costs for maintenance and lack of accessibility for all stakeholders
- **Lack of access to finance and premium pricing**

2. Priorities

- **Greater inclusion and national/regional strategies: Women, Indigenous Peoples, Local Communities and Youth.**
- **Regional and national strategies** for reforestation and ecosystems management.
- **Affordable and accessible traceability systems**
 - Digital and technology access to all producers, including smallholders, IPLCs, senior producers, youth
 - Supporting pilots and scale up of sustainable production systems in agriculture, protective of biodiversity and facilitating socio-economic development.



3. The Way Forward

3.1 Greater Inclusion and National/Regional Strategies: Women, Indigenous Peoples, Local Communities, and Youth

- **Empowerment and Representation:** Including marginalized groups such as women, Indigenous Peoples, Local Communities (IPLCs), and youth in VSS frameworks reduces risk of exclusion and more culturally appropriate standards
- **Tailored Financial Support** - microfinance initiatives, targeted subsidies
- **Community-led implementation** - local knowledge and practices can be integrated into sustainability standards, making them more effective and easier to adopt

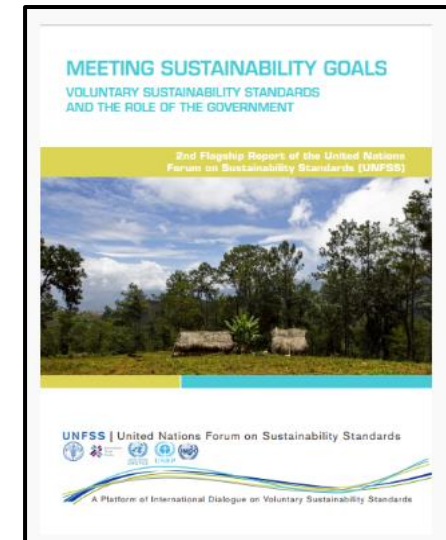
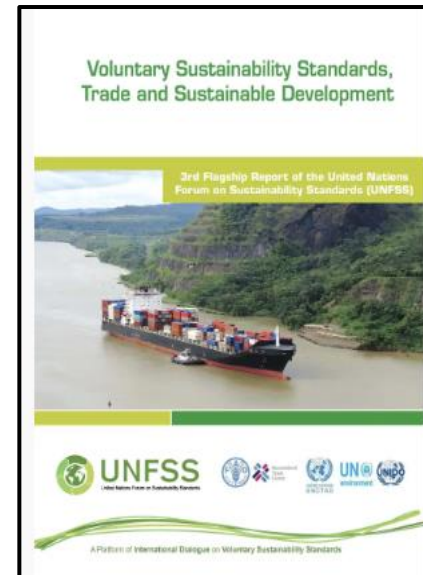
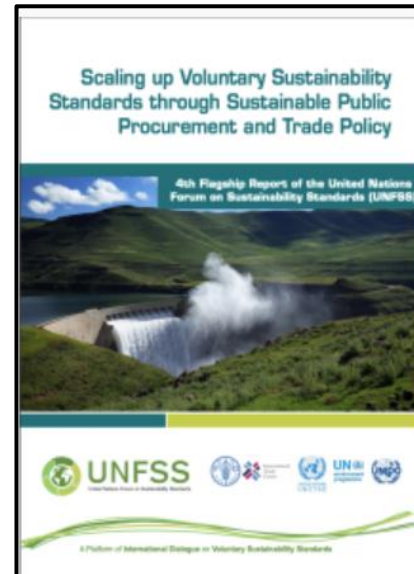
3.2 Unlocking access to credit and financial mechanisms

- Revitalize a type of 'environmental trust fund' that includes agri-commodities
- **Prioritizing small and medium sized borrowers:** financing banks, technical assistance and rural extension resources to sustainable production projects.
- **Payments for ecosystem services;** right metrics to measure progress.

3.3 Innovative solutions for traceability systems

- **Lowering cost through public support**
- **Platforms for knowledge exchange and collaboration among all stakeholders across the value chain.**
- **Technology solutions:** satellite monitoring to signal issues in the agri-production areas and focus on re-foresting at-risk areas

UNFSS: A cross-agency platform dedicated to VSS



Visit: www.unfss.org

Thank you

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