# APF Net Curriculum 3 INternational dialogue on forestry issues

## **Lecture 4 Regulatory Frameworks and types of Multi-lateral Agreements Part 2 Transcripts Duration: 00:11:11**

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[Module II: Lecture 4 Part 2]

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How do we ensure the implementation of these treaties? Again, if the countries signed on an instrument, any instrument, any treaty, any agreement signed under the U.N. among countries or outside the U.N. sometime, legally binding or non-legally binding, it is a treaty or an agreement that must be implemented to the extent possible. Now how to ensure that the implementation is quite effective? We signed and then it comes to implementation, we are not really sure what we have. What happens there? We have to do a few things. First of all, a maneuver or monitoring, reporting and verification which means that you signed an agreement, I'm just using this as an example, to curve or reduce illegal logging in your country, fine. There must be some monitoring, because you cannot say, ok I have reduced the illegal logging, I have stopped it. There must be some monitor which means the third party will go to your country and monitor. How much illegal logging going on this year, how much did you use it and so on. And then you have to report it - these results. It has to be also correctable results, not just sitting there saying, OK I'm reporting that I reduced the illegal logging, No. And then there must be a third party to verify what you are saying. So you monitor, if it's OK, lasting a year, illegal logging in my country was 1,000,000 cubic meter, this year it's only 700, 000, I'm reporting this and then a third party would come and check on this. There are several ways to check on it. With at a forest level, or even at the exporters, or even at the importers, international trade. So there is a verification. Second thing is that, to ensure the good implementation, is the compliance and addressing disputes because sometimes again use the deforestation or illegal logging, I comply but there is a dispute. I say I reduced the deforestation by 20% this year, some NGOs, some people coming and saying No, No, you did not reduce it more than 2%. So there must be some way to address the dispute, or it's going to decide that I'm right or the other parties are right,. That's another thing. If I do not go by the laws, go by the the clothes of the instrument or the agreement, for some reasons which is not only to the country, there must be some penalties and even suspension of membership of this international agreement. Because it's very serious thing when the country signs on it. So if they don't go by the laws, there must be some penalties. Also once we come to the implementation or the agreement, there must be some linkages to decisions in external bodies, which means that we come to discuss this in international forum. They agree to reduce the deforestation and we can discuss it and report it, and give guidance for international organizations, but it's also an obligation to do that and sometimes we give to external bodies too, monitoring what we are doing. And finally to ensure that we are implementing what we agreed on as a country, we have to do some outreach, which means that, for example we are trying to reduce illegal logging, or reduce deforestation or support the local communities, people living in the forests. So we must do some extension, some outreach, we are going to tell these people this is what is happening because we cannot say, it's a secret that we reduce the deforestation, no. There must be some outreach, we have to open it and there have to be some good communication. Finally to improve or to ensure effective implementation, we need to support each country, we need support of the international organizations because there are so many organizations around the world that can help monitoring, can help reporting, verification and so on like FAO, like the World Bank, and so many international NGOs that can support this process. And these also are very important, especially the international NGOs. They are supporting, they are good to ensure effective implementation. And another issue here which is very important, that's the financial and technical assistance. So many countries around the world, they sign the agreement, they like to be part of the agreement, but they don't have the means, financial or technical or even human resources to implement and that's why they should seek assistance from outside and this happens later on we will be talking about the kind of assistance from developed to developing countries for implementation and processes and so on. And finally we talk about reviewing meetings. Of course we have to, every so many years, we have to review what we have done because if we know that there is no review or if we know that it is at the end of the day nobody is coming to review what we are doing, it's not very conducive to implementing what we agreed on. So these are the eight points that we should look at if we want to ensure effective implementation.

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What are the government's areas for treaty implementation? First of all, we have to create coherence between various policies, laws and regulations, customs and practices, both in the forest sector and in other sectors that define ownership and use rights and responsibilities over forests. That's very important because sometimes we have laws for forest and we do not connect with the laws or regulations for agriculture, for land conversion whatever, so whatever we try to do in the forest, reducing deforestation, there are some sectors like agriculture who wants to deforest the land to grow crops and so on.

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Second, we have to talk to the people and convince them that it is for their own good to obey the laws and regulations, customs and practices. Because no matter what the government does, it all goes down to the people who are implementing this. And the third factor is to get the private sector involve and behave according to the law, and be responsible because the government may implement the treaty, may try very hard to reduce deforestation or f the illegal logging but you have private sector who is not in there, so there must be some good communication and agreements between the national government and the private sector, big logging companies, big growers of soy bean whatever, that they have to abide by the law. And then there are so many people interested in this business at the national level, we call them the stakeholders, coming from the indigenous people to the forest dwellers, to the NGOs, the private sector to so many people there. And we need to clarify the power because someone chose are very powerful, others are very weak, some sits in groups, some villages, some indigenous people are very weak who cannot really use them to support the implementation. And this must be in power, these people, so that because they are part of the implementation, there is no way that you can implement deforestation in an area where the local organizations are so weak, nobody can talk. That’s they need some support, they need some strengthening as well, and the same thing for the institutions responsible for that. Again if you have a government, department of forestry with underfunded, understaffed and people are not getting enough salaries and so on, and your tell them go and implement our treaty or reducing deforestation, How could they? It's impossible. There are somebody getting $50 a month or $100 a month and he or she is taking care of or responsible for a concession of a million hectares yielding some $10-15 million a month or so, how could they be? there must be some regulations to control that.

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And finally we have to enhance the incentives, and enabling conditions and capacity of organization and individuals to engaging in forest governance practices. That's important. Government cannot do everything; government is just an instrument to help the country that the people implement the treaty.

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So these are some of the readings for this lecture, just take notes of them, this is for much more information.

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So this is the end of Lecture 4 on Module II, thank you.

[End of Module II, Lecture 4]