



# Ground Data Guidance

## Recommendations and request for comments



### What challenges does your country face related to ground data for forest monitoring?

We seek comments on which challenges you would like GFOI to address in the future, such as:

- Data sharing and distribution
- Integration of NFI data with remote sensing
- How to analyze or handle nonresponse (missing data) in NFI
- General approaches for engaging multiple interests or stakeholders in the use and support of the NFI, e.g., via specific in-country applications such as:
  - Subnational estimates of forest conditions and forest change
  - Biodiversity
  - Wildlife habitat
  - Nontimber forest resources
  - Watershed values
  - Others? (Please leave a comment.)

### What is “ground data”?

Ground data is defined as any data set commonly used in national forest monitoring that has not been collected by a satellite or other airborne sensors. Often, but not always, it is collected as part of a national forest inventory (NFI).

Review of GFOI and FAO’s ground data guidance

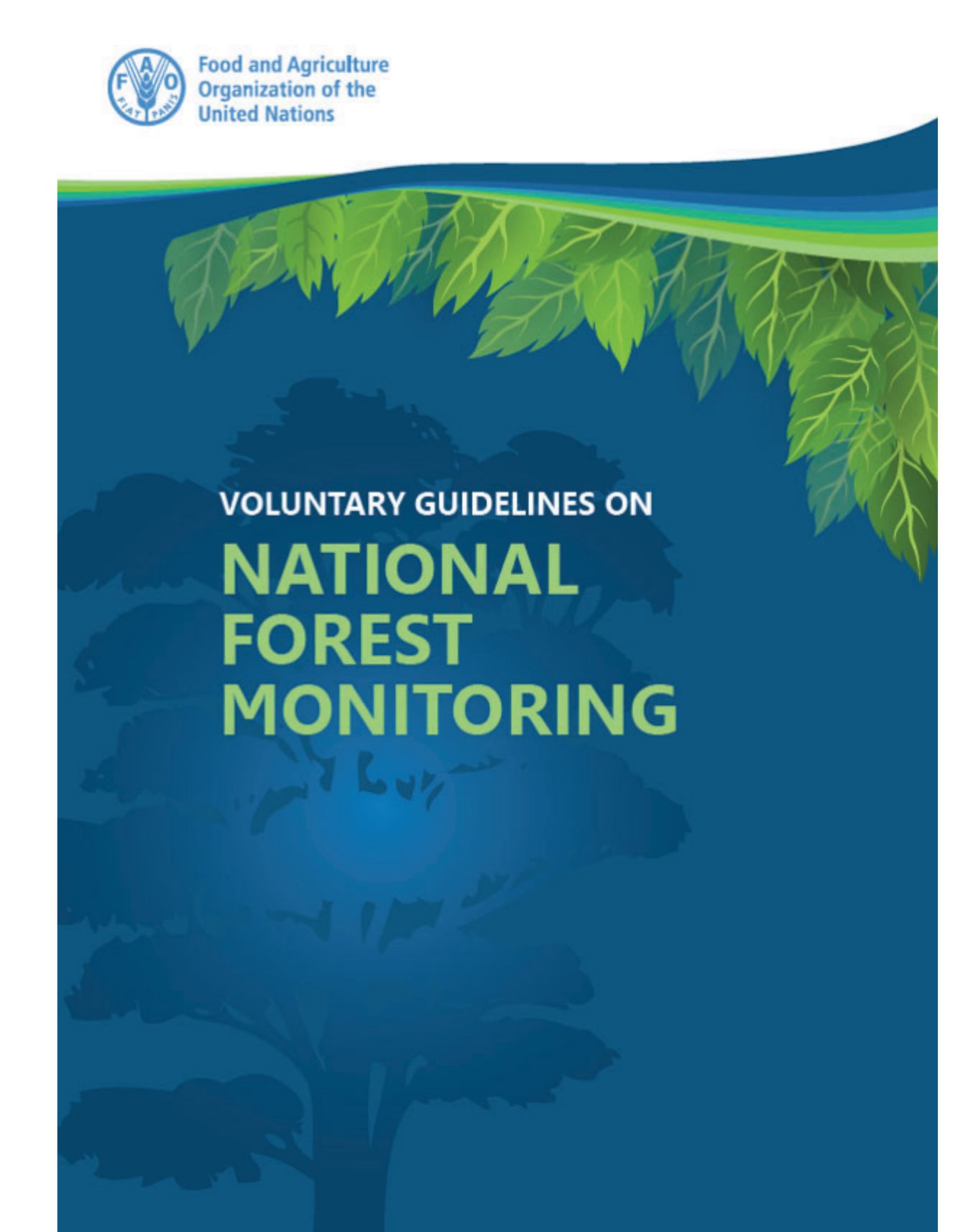
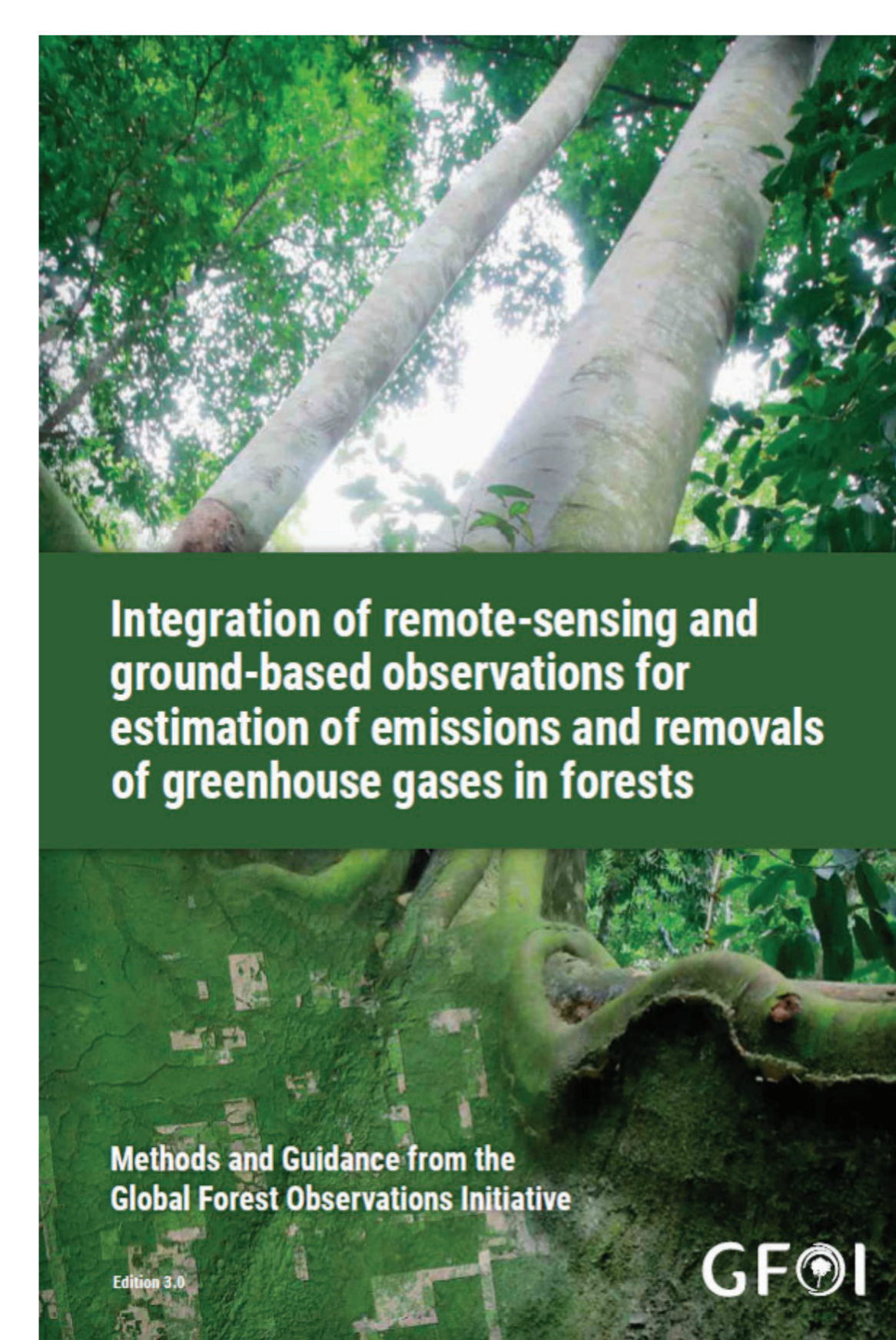
In 2019, the GFOI Data Component initiated a review of GFOI and FAO guidance on the use of ground data, resulting in the following outcomes:

- Revisions to GFOI’s Methods & Guidance Documentation (MGD 3.0).
- Recommendations for future guidance that GFOI may provide.

### What is the most effective delivery of new ground data guidance?

- New MGD or REDDcompass content
- GFOI Family of Resources
- Virtual presentations
- Online repositories of case studies and/or papers describing best practices
- Others? (Please leave a comment.)

### What guidance already exists?



For more information or to provide additional comments, contact Sara Goeking, GFOI Data Component co-manager: Sara.Goeking@usda.gov.