UN-REDD RESULTS FRAMEWORK 2021-2025

Enabling forest solutions to the climate emergency

29 September 2020

UN-REDD is the UN's knowledge and advisory platform on forest solutions to the climate crisis. It is a UN flagship partnership, composed by three agencies – FAO, UNDP and UNEP – that work together to assist countries to implement the Paris Agreement, particularly Articles 5 and 6. Working with 65 partner countries, UN-REDD strives to reduce deforestation, promote sustainable land uses, advance international cooperative approaches to climate mitigation and mobilise climate finance to turn the tide on tropical deforestation.

Looking to the 2030 horizon, the goal of UN-REDD is to help realise forest solutions to the climate emergency by avoiding carbon emissions and fostering carbon sequestration for at least 5 GtCO$_2$e per year, as proposed by the IPCC Special Report on Climate Change and Land (2019) and the UNEP Emissions Gap Report (2018). In pursuing this international goal, UN-REDD will employ approaches that ensure the environmental integrity of carbon emission reductions, to promote social inclusion in climate policies and to realise non-carbon benefits – from safeguarding biodiversity to supporting local livelihoods and advancing the rights of indigenous peoples.

The UN-REDD strategy for the decade to 2030 turns around four inter-related outcomes:

1. Realising forest solutions
2. Rewarding forest solutions
3. Enhancing forest solutions
4. Connecting actors and knowledge for forest solutions

Within the scope of this ambition, the UN-REDD results framework for the period 2021-2025, presented below, is structured in 12 outputs that align to international agreements and trends, that suit country demands and that reflect donor interests. These represent key domains of policy advice, technical assistance and knowledge that UN-REDD will provide to countries and stakeholders to advance forest solutions. This results framework provides the basis for donor dialogues, for preparing annual work plans and budgets, and for managing, monitoring and reporting on the implementation of the UN-REDD Programme.

This results framework was designed on the basis of more than a decade of UN-REDD experience and lessons on the climate-forest nexus, at global, country and community levels. It aligns UN-REDD to the major international development undertakings in the forthcoming decade, when the Paris Agreement enters full implementation and the Sustainable Development Goals should be realised. The framework incorporates provisions related to the current global COVID-19 crisis, articulating UN-REDD with the COVID-19 recovery, under a green recovery approach. The results framework has been consulted with diverse UN-REDD stakeholders since 2018, including the UN-REDD Executive Board, which welcomed it during its fourth meeting in June 2020.

In summary, the results framework reflects the intended UN-REDD contribution to the emerging Nature-based Solutions (NbS) movement, which gained a critical mass of political support at the 2019 Climate Action Summit. It recognizes forests as a unique natural capital, able to simultaneously address climate change, safeguard biodiversity, enhance rural livelihoods and sustain indigenous lifestyles. Forests are, in fact, a leading nature-based solution to both the climate crisis and the Sustainable Development Goals. UN-REDD aspires to unlock forest solutions worldwide.

UN-REDD RESULTS FRAMEWORK 2021-2025

OUTCOMES / OUTPUTS	INDICATIVE INTERVENTIONS	SDGs TARGETS
OUTCOME 1. FOREST SOLUTIONS REALISED *Forest-based GHG emission reductions and enhanced removals, of increasing quality (accuracy, certainty and permanence), unlocked at a level of 1 GtCO₂e per year*		
1.1 Countries and jurisdictions implement REDD+ investment plans/programmes to deliver their Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs)	• Support policy coordination and coherence by facilitating transformational cross-sectoral policy design and implementation, including institutional coordination, stakeholder platforms, tailored policies and incentive schemes to integrate REDD+ into deforestation-driving sectors – particularly agriculture, rural infrastructure and extractive industries. • Promote appropriate financing arrangements for scaled up REDD+ action (including, inter alia, fiscal transfer schemes, corporate investments, international climate finance, economic incentives, credit schemes, RBPs, etc.) engaging multiple sources of finance (public investments, commercial and development banks, credit schemes, national budgets, commodity trade boards). • Promote landscape approaches by supporting countries to implement integrated, land-use policy and planning towards green, resilient and inclusive rural economies – with emphasis on landscape-level low-carbon rural development and local food security. • Support capacity development and provide technical support for actions to enhance community and producer organizations' capacity to implement REDD+ and forest solutions while promoting multidimensional resiliency and economic recovery. • Support participatory planning by integrating indigenous peoples' and local community's development plans into national and jurisdictional REDD+ programmes. • Support security of tenure and access to natural resources, compensation, administration or land governance in the context of the VGGT, including support to community and indigenous peoples' management of forests • Align and leverage REDD+ finance for COVID-19 recovery towards green, resilient and inclusive rural economies. • Support efforts to address illegal logging. • Design options and implementation arrangements for integrating and connecting regulatory frameworks, reference levels, forest monitoring systems, national registries, finance flows, benefit-sharing plans and safeguards to ensure integrity of emission reductions accounting across different administrative/geographical scales of implementation, including nesting approaches.	13.2 Integrate climate change measures into national policies, strategies and planning. 13.3 Improve human and institutional capacity on climate change mitigation. 15.2 Promote the implementation of sustainable management of all types of forests, and halt deforestation. 15/b Mobilise resources to finance sustainable forest management and provide adequate incentives for it. 16.3 Promote the rule of law. 16.7 Ensure inclusive and participatory decision-making.

OUTCOMES / OUTPUTS	INDICATIVE INTERVENTIONS	SDGs TARGETS
	• Support policy assessment through adaptive management and iterative improvement of REDD+ implementation through socio-economic and environmental impact assessments, monitoring and evaluation capacities, protocols and systems. • Demonstrate proof-of-concept flagship interventions, of specific geographical and/or thematic focus. (e.g. Lower Mekong region on addressing forest crime through improved governance, and in a new phase of the Community-Based REDD+ (CBR+) Initiative).	
1.2 Forest landscape restoration, low-carbon forest management and forest carbon stock enhancement accelerated	• Develop and implement cost-effective, and spatially explicit forest landscape restoration strategies and plans, with emphasis on assisted natural regeneration and a focus on carbon-rich ecosystems. • Creating policy, governance, capacity and financing conditions to scale up investment and action in forest landscape restoration and sustainable and legal forest management. • Develop national standards for sustainable and legal forest management and timber production and trade, including marketing (branding, application of market-based tools, etc.). • Support local income-generating restoration activities for vulnerable groups, notably indigenous peoples and rural women and youth: e.g. bioenergy, fencing, enrichment planting, nursery establishment and maintenance, out-planting, restoration plantations, woodlots, community forestry, agroforestry, silvo-pasture, biodiversity habitat corridors. • Support the design and implementation of pest and integrated fire management practices into agriculture and forest management planning, monitoring and adaptive management.	6.6 Protect and restore water-related ecosystems, including forests. 15.1 Ensure the conservation, restoration and sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, in particular forests. 15.2 Restore degraded forests and increase reforestation globally.
1.3 Deforestation-free commodity supply chains developed	• Conduct policy analysis to reform and align economic incentives to reduce deforestation from forest-risk commodity value chains. • Provide evidence-based inputs to private sector initiatives on environmental and social impact management and reporting for deforestation-free commodity supply chains. • Redirect public and private capital to finance deforestation-free commodities through appropriate financial instruments. • Include deforestation-free standards in global, regional and national commodity platforms. • Pilot initiatives, including multi-stakeholder platforms and public-private partnerships, to scale up the engagement of the private sector in deforestation-free supply chains. • Provide evidence-based guidance to national and multilateral policy approaches on deforestation-free commodity sourcing and procurement in key importing countries and regions.	12.6 Encourage companies to adopt sustainable practices and integrate sustainability information in their reporting. 12/a Strengthen scientific and technological capacity in developing countries towards sustainable patterns of consumption and production. 17.17 Promote public-private partnerships for the SDGs.

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1.4 Countries enabled to measure high-quality and accurate activity data, emission factors, emissions and emission reductions with policy-relevant monitoring systems	• Ensure accuracy, environmental integrity and overall quality of results, taking into account the complexity of national/subnational socio-political contexts. • Provide normative guidance and technical assistance for the continuous improvement of NFMS to generate high-quality data with a rigorous focus on reduction in uncertainty. • Improve NFMS into resource-efficient and fit-for-purpose systems, supporting broader domestic policy needs. • Support countries to enhance spatial detail to forest monitoring systems to enable integrity of GHG emissions reductions and removals accounting across different administrative/geographical scales of implementation. • Support development, adoption and sustained use of appropriate carbon accounting frameworks, procedures and tools for forest landscape restoration and forest carbon stock enhancement activities. • Adapt forest monitoring systems to inform policymaking by rigorously building on evaluation and past action and carrying out policy-relevant data-needs assessments. • Facilitate countries' access to cost-efficient technical solutions for enhancing accessibility, transparency and robustness of forest data and information through the Open Foris initiative (openforis.org) for catalysing forest-based approaches to climate mitigation. • Strengthen resource-efficient solutions for countries to plan and implement data collection, management and analysis that build on existing Open Foris platform, supporting REDD+ MRV efforts under Outcome 2.	16.6 Develop effective, accountable and transparent institutions. 16.10 Public access to information. 17.19 Develop measurements of progress on sustainable development.
1.5 Safeguards addressed, respected, monitored and reported throughout the implementation of REDD+ actions	• Strengthen national/jurisdictional policies, procedures and institutional capacities to address and respect safeguards throughout the implementation of REDD+ actions (including use of RBP proceeds). • Improve SIS operations by strengthening institutional mandates, procedures and capacities to compile, manage, analyse, validate, disseminate and apply safeguards information. • Monitor and report on stepwise improvements in how safeguards have been addressed and respected, throughout implementation of REDD+ actions, through summaries of information and other relevant (domestic/international) reporting formats. • Mainstream gender across the design, financing, implementation, monitoring and reporting of REDD+ actions.	1.4 Equal rights to economic resources, to ownership and control over land, and to natural resources. 5.5 Women's full and effective participation in decision-making. 5/a Women equal rights to land and natural resources. 15.9 Integrate ecosystem and biodiversity values into national and local planning and development processes.

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	• Ensure that national efforts to address and respect safeguards yield a broad range of environmental and social policy goals and non-carbon benefits, particularly enhanced ecological and livelihoods resilience, food security, employment and green economic recovery.	
OUTCOME 2. FOREST SOLUTIONS REWARDED *Enabling USD 5 bn mobilised for REDD+ from results-based payment (RBP) schemes, carbon markets and other transactions under Art. 6 of the* Paris Agreement		
2.1 Results-based payments accessed for measured, reported and verified REDD+ results	• Help countries and jurisdictions meet eligibility requirements for, and access RBPs from multiple sources (e.g. bilateral agreements, GCF, BioCarbon Fund, FCPF Carbon Fund), focusing on the environmental integrity and quality of results. • Inform the revision of RBP pilot programmes and the design of new, scaled-up RBP programmes for REDD+, ensuring RBP proceeds are reinvested into virtuous cycles of improved REDD+ actions yielding higher quality results. • Provide advice on inclusive and gender-responsive approaches to the equitable use of RBP proceeds, particularly with regards to indigenous peoples, local communities and rural women. • Programme RBP proceeds, with a focus on strengthening the implementation of REDD+ actions so to establish virtuous cycles of high-quality mitigation results and access to payments.	1.4 Equal rights to economic resources. 13/a Mobilising USD 100 million annually for mitigation actions and operationalise the Green Climate Fund. 15/b Mobilise resources to finance sustainable forest management and provide adequate incentives for it.
2.2 Market transactions for forest carbon facilitated	• Support countries in meeting eligibility requirements and completing required documentation for the ART-TREES and for entry into emerging carbon markets (e.g. California TFS, CORSIA, voluntary markets) that fulfil current and future provisions under Art. 6 of the Paris Agreement). • Conduct carbon market readiness assessments informing national strategies, regulations and institutional capacities to create synergies between carbon market finance, RBPs and private sector investment strategies. • Clarify rights related to emission reductions titles, including background analysis on options and implications, stakeholder dialogues and recommendations on legal solutions. • Provide evidence-based inputs to standard-setting initiatives, emerging markets, to promote investments in REDD+ programmes.	17.3 Mobilise additional financial resources for developing countries from multiple sources. 17.17 Promote public-private partnerships for the SDGs.

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2.3 Private-sector forest carbon investments mobilised	• Identify and connect private companies that, as part of transitional corporate mitigation strategies, are committed to invest in forest-based solutions to climate change of the highest environmental integrity and social equity. • Tailor information on opportunities for investment in forest-based solutions to climate change to stimulate private sector investment of high environmental integrity, social inclusivity and gender equitability. • Facilitate partnerships between countries/jurisdictions and private sector actors to scale up investment to targeted REDD+ programmes, particularly those that include forest restoration and enhancement of carbon stocks as part of their REDD+ activities. • Convene dialogues between project developers, investors and governments to achieve a common understanding of their expectations and conditions regarding private-sector investments in forest-based solutions, with a focus on countries and jurisdictions that have the adequate policy and institutional foundations.	
OUTCOME 3. FOREST SOLUTIONS ENHANCED *More than 15 countries enhance significantly the forest component of their NDCs in the 2020-2025 cycle, including quantitative targets*		
3.1 NDCs mitigation actions in the forest and land-use sectors assessed, accelerated and enhanced through time	• Facilitate high-level policy coordination and multi-stakeholder dialogues for the review, alignment and enhancement of NDC forest-related targets and actions. • Develop action plans, assess costs and scope financing and investment opportunities for the implementation of the NDC forest and land-use components. • Support expansion of forest and land-use coverage in NDC scope, including introduction of new policies and measures for REDD+ and informed by GHG inventory data improvements. • Capitalise on synergies between REDD+ finance (RBPs, carbon markets) and the implementation and enhanced ambition of NDC forest components. • Facilitate stakeholder inclusion in forest and land-use aspects of NDC review processes, preparation of the NDC action plans and monitoring NDC implementation.	13.2 Integrate climate change measures into national policies, strategies and planning. 13/b Raising capacity for effective climate change planning and management. 16.7 Inclusive and participatory decision-making. 17.14 Enhance policy coherence for sustainable development.

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OUTCOME 4. CONNECTING ACTORS AND KNOWLEDGE FOR FOREST SOLUTIONS *Forests and REDD+ catalyse a global, transformative Nature-based Solutions movement to accelerate climate action*		
4.1 Knowledge on how to scale up REDD+ implementation is captured, managed and disseminated to accelerate climate action	• Produce knowledge and communication products on scalable and innovative solutions related to topics covered under Outcomes 1-3, such as briefs, reports and videos, and including formats accessible to indigenous peoples and local communities. • Maintain an online repository and collaborative platform as a hub for knowledge management, linking partner countries with communities of technical practice and wider forest solution constituencies. • Convene South-South, regional and global webinars and knowledge exchange events on REDD+ (related to topics covered under Outcomes 1-3) and on lessons on implementing forest solutions. • Promote indigenous knowledge and ecological practices in forest solutions. • Service communities of technical practice on the Outputs under Outcomes 1-3 to bring together practitioners and experts, capitalize on experience and to scale up delivery. • Integrate social inclusion and gender equality principles in the UN-REDD knowledge management and communication efforts to ensure they equitably involve and are reflective of all stakeholders involved in REDD+ action, including those from more marginalised groups, particularly indigenous peoples, local communities, women and youth. • Provide technical inputs to support REDD+ implementation within the UNFCCC.	4.7 Knowledge and skills to promote sustainable development. 13.3 Awareness-raising and capacities on climate change mitigation. 17.6 International cooperation on science, technology and innovation, and enhancing knowledge sharing. 17.9 Capacity-building in developed countries to support national plans to implement the SDGs, including through South-South and triangular cooperation.
4.2 Collective political and societal support to NbS increased	• Develop rationale and technical pathways to integrate NbS/REDD+ actions and COVID-19 response • Connect, convene and capacitate global champions and leaders – from partner countries, indigenous peoples, private sector, civil society, women and youth organisations – to scale up and accelerate ambition and action on NbS for systemic change in the management and financing of land use and forests. • Facilitate global dialogues between companies and governments to achieve a common understanding of their expectations and conditions related to carbon markets, REDD+ and private investments in NbS. • Strengthen the recognition, promotion and inclusion of the knowledge of indigenous women, men and youth in NbS through international initiatives and networks, including collaboration with the UNFCCC Local Communities and Indigenous Peoples Platform, the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues and regional indigenous peoples' federations.	1/a Enhanced development cooperation. 16.8 Strengthen the participation of developing countries in the institutions of global governance. 17.16 Multi-stakeholder partnerships to mobilise and share knowledge, expertise, technology and financial resources.

OUTCOMES / OUTPUTS	INDICATIVE INTERVENTIONS	SDGs TARGETS
	• Support global and regional NbS networks and initiatives by providing science-based, proven and innovative knowledge and practices. • Conduct targeted global and regional public advocacy campaigns to advance NbS across relevant arenas, from social media and digital fora to national climate action platforms and multi-sectoral development planning processes.	17.17 Promote civil society partnerships.
4.3 Digital cooperation and frontier technologies deployed to accelerate and enhance NbS	• Promote frontier technologies and big data within the NbS movement to accelerate collective decision making and collaborative action. • Establish and support digital cooperation platforms and processes to provide NbS knowledge and advisory services to countries and stakeholders. • Convene and facilitate partnerships between NbS networks and technology leaders to apply disruptive technologies to assist national institutions, stakeholders and companies to scale up national action on NbS. • Organize a biennial hackathon with actors of digital disruption to identify frontier technology solutions, such as artificial intelligence, machine learning and internet of things to accelerate systemic change in the management and financing of land use and forests. • Assess barriers to digital cooperation and virtual engagement among marginalised groups – particularly indigenous peoples, local communities, women and youth – and provide corresponding solutions to improve their availability and accessibility.	5/b ICT use to promote the empowerment of women. 9/c Access to ICT in least developed countries. 17.6 Enhance North-South, South-South and triangular cooperation on, and access to technology and innovation.