FOREST SOLUTIONS TO THE CLIMATE EMERGENCY

UN-REDD is the UN knowledge and advisory platform on the forest solutions to the climate crisis. It helps **its 65 partner countries to advance the implementation of the Paris Agreement**, particularly Articles 5 and 6, in order 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.

In the 2030 horizon, the UN-REDD goal is to help realise forest solutions to the climate emergency by avoiding carbon emissions and fostering carbon sequestration.

As per IPCC report and UNEP's Emissions Gap Report, **the forest potential has been estimated in the range of 5 GtCO$_2$e per year**.

In pursuing this international goal, UN-REDD will promote approaches that ensure the environmental integrity of carbon emissions reductions while supporting non-carbon benefits – from safeguarding biodiversity to supporting local livelihoods and promoting the rights of indigenous peoples.

RESULTS FRAMEWORK 2021-2025

OUTCOME 1. FOREST SOLUTIONS REALISED

Forest-based emission reductions and enhanced removals, of increasing quality (accuracy, certainty and permanence), unlocked at a level of 1 GtCO$_2$e per year

1.1. Countries and jurisdictions implement REDD+ investment plans/ programmes to deliver their Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs)

- Support transformational cross-sectoral policy design and implementation
- Promote financing arrangements for scaled up REDD+ action
- Support design and implementation of integrated land use policies and plans
- Integrate indigenous peoples' and local community's development plans into REDD+ programmes
- Align and leverage REDD+ finance for COVID-19 recovery
- Integrate and connect REDD policies and actions across geographical scales and ensure integrity of emission reduction accounting

1.2. Forest landscape restoration and forest carbon stock enhancement accelerated

- Scale up investment and action in forest landscape restoration
- Develop national standards for sustainable and legal forest management
- Support local income-generating restoration activities for vulnerable groups
- Support the design and implementation of pest and integrated fire management practices

1.3. Deforestation-free commodity supply chains developed

- Reform and align economic incentives to reduce deforestation from commodity value chains
- Provide evidence-based inputs on policy approaches, management and reporting for deforestation-free supply chains
- Redirect public and private capital to finance deforestation-free commodities
- Include deforestation-free standards in commodity platforms across multiple scales
- Pilot public-private partnerships in deforestation-free supply chains

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
- Provide technical assistance for the continuous improvement of national forest monitoring systems
- Support development of carbon accounting frameworks, procedures and tools
- Support resource-efficient solutions for data collection, management and analysis, enhancing accesibility and transparency
- Support generation of policy relevant information and assessments of past actions and policies

1.5. Safeguards addressed, respected, monitored and reported throughout the implementation of REDD+ actions

- Strengthen policies, procedures and institutional capacities to address and respect safeguards
- Improve SIS operations to compile, manage and analyse safeguards information
- Ensure a broad range of environmental and social non-carbon benefits
- Mainstream gender across the REDD+ cycles

OUTCOME 2. FOREST SOLUTIONS REWARDED

Enabling USD 5 bn mobilised for REDD+ from results-based payment (RBP) schemes, carbon markets and other transactions under Article 6 of the Paris Agreement

2.1. RBPs accessed for measured, reported and verified REDD+ results

- Help countries meet eligibility requirements for, and access to, RBPs from multiple sources
- Inform the revision of existing, and design of new, scaled-up RBP programmes
- Provide advice on inclusive and gender-responsive approaches to the equitable use of RBP proceeds
- Establish virtuous cycles of high-quality mitigation results and access to payments

2.2. Market transactions for forest carbon facilitated

- Help countries meet eligibility requirements of ART-TREES and entry into emerging carbon markets
- Conduct carbon market readiness assessments and create synergies across carbon finance options
- Clarify rights related to emission reductions titles
- Provide evidence-based inputs to standard-setting initiatives

2.3. Private-sector forest carbon investments mobilised

- Identify and connect private companies committed to invest in forest-based solutions
- Stimulate private sector investment in forest-based solutions of high environmental integrity
- Facilitate partnerships between countries and private sector to scale up investment into REDD+

OUTCOME 3. FOREST SOLUTIONS ENHANCED

More than 15 countries enhance significantly the forest component of their Nationally Determined Contributions (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 policy coordination and multi-stakeholder dialogues for enhanced forest-related targets
- Scope financing and investment opportunities for the implementation of forest components
- Support expansion of forest and land-use coverage in NDC scope
- Capitalise on synergies between REDD+ finance and enhanced ambition of NDC forest components
- Facilitate stakeholder inclusion

OUTCOME 4. CONNECTING ACTORS AND KNOWLEDGE FOR FOREST SOLUTIONS

Forests and REDD+ catalyse a global, transformative Nature-based Solutions (NbS) 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 solutions related to Outcomes 1-3
- Maintain an online repository and collaborative platform as a hub for knowledge management
- Convene South-South, regional and global webinars and knowledge exchange events on REDD+
- Service communities of technical practise under Outcomes 1-3
- Integrate social inclusion and gender equality in knowledge management and communications

4.2. Collective political and societal support to NbS increased

- Connect, convene and capacitate global champions and leaders to accelerate ambition on NbS
- Strengthen the recognition and inclusion of the knowledge of indigenous peoples and youth in NbS
- Support global and regional NbS networks and initiatives
- Conduct targeted global and regional public advocacy campaigns to advance NbS

4.3 Digital cooperation and frontier technologies deployed to accelerate and enhance NbS

- Promote frontier technologies and use of big data to support NbS movement
- Support digital cooperation platforms and processes to provide NbS knowledge
- Facilitate partnerships between NbS networks and technology leaders
- Identify frontier technology solutions to accelerate systemic change in land management
- Assess barriers to digital cooperation and virtual engagement among marginalised groups

TRANSFORMATIONAL APPROACH

UN-REDD will focus its efforts in the next decade through three inter-related approaches:

INNOVATION

Advance global thinking around climate financing for forests by operating as a "spark hub", fostering innovative policies, partnerships, and approaches to REDD+ mechanisms.

CONNECTION

Bring together policy-makers, the private sector, indigenous peoples and civil society for joint forest mitigation, resilience and adaptation solutions

ACTION

Provide technical assistance and policy advice to countries through a mix of multi-stakeholder platforms, knowledge tools, digital technologies and targeted interventions.

INTERVENTION PRINCIPLES

SPEED

Greater speed in delivery will be based on mainstreaming a stepwise approach to delivery, a greater standarization of products that can be deployed more rapidly and a more fungible budget allocation model, whereby funds can be deployed based on emerging opportunities.

FLEXIBILITY

The Programme will regularly scan horizons for new opportunities for intervention in additional geographies and maintain flexibility to shift staff and resources to those new areas without compromising results and impacts from existing commitments.

SCALE

UN-REDD will focus on forest-based solutions that are commensurate to the climate emergency. This means that technical assistance, innovation, policy advice and knowledge management will be planned and delivered in ways that are catalytic and yield impacts of scale.

GOVERNANCE ARRANGEMENTS

The Programme will build on the current decision-making structure, with possible adjustments to gain speed and flexibility in operations. Work plans, country assistance and knowledge management will place greater emphasis on attaining target outcomes, such as $GtCO_2e$ results and catalysing REDD+ finance.

OPERATIONAL MODALITIES

The new operational modality will focus on attaining the indicators of success with added flexibility, making work plans, country support and stakeholder engagement much more result-oriented. UN-REDD will continue to engage in situations that require a committed presence for an extended period, but will also retain enough flexbility to be a catalyst for short-term opportunities. The Programme will gain increased political traction at country level through the UN Resident Coordinator system.

RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

UN-REDD would have a "core budget" to maintain the Programme´s institutional capacity and technical expertise, and a separate "operational budget" to finance activities and operations. UN-REDD will establish interagency teams to deliver support services and respond to emerging opportunities. Different products or opportunities will require different team compositions.

BACKGROUND

The present strategic framework is based on more than a decade of UN-REDD work and lessons on the forest-climate nexus at global, country and community levels. It aligns UN-REDD to the major international development undertakings in the 2020-2030 decade, when the Paris Agreement enters full implementation and the Sustainable Development Goals should be realised.

2018

Executive Board (EB) starts reflecting on the future of UN-REDD post-2020, as the Paris Agreement will enter into full deployment. The IPCC confirms the critical importance of respecting the 1.5 degree limit in global warming.

2019

EB discusses options, UN-REDD produces various drafts that are consulted among stakeholders and EB members.

The IPPC releases a special report on climate change and land that highlights the importance of forest solutions. The UN holds the Climate Action Summit and launches the Decade on Ecosystem Restoration 2021-2030, the Climate Promise and the UNFCCC Local Communities and Indigenous Peoples Platform.

2020

Updated, COVID-responsive strategic framework further refined by the EB. UN-REDD inception conducted, including prospective assessments, methodological approaches, inter-institutional dialogues and portfolio development.

2021

The new UN-REDD Results Framework starts implementation, in a transition year, as countries and institutions adapt to the COVID-19 crisis, and the 2nd round of NDCs submission is due.