

# UN-REDD

## P R O G R A M M E

The United Nations Collaborative Programme  
on Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and  
Forest Degradation in Developing Countries

### Supporting countries to get ready for REDD

Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation (REDD) is increasingly likely to be included in a post-2012 climate agreement, yet many questions remain unanswered. How will the REDD mechanism link to existing national development strategies? How can forest communities and indigenous peoples participate in the design, monitoring and evaluation of national REDD programmes? How will REDD be funded, and how will countries ensure that benefits are distributed equitably among all those who manage the forests? Finally, how will the amount of carbon stored and sequestered as a result of REDD be monitored?

The UN-REDD Programme was created to assist developing countries to answer just these kinds of questions and help them get ready to participate in a future REDD mechanism. Through its nine initial country programme activities in Africa, Asia and Latin America, the UN-REDD Programme supports the capacity of national governments to prepare and implement national REDD strategies with the active involvement of all stakeholders, including indigenous peoples and other forest-dependent communities.



**Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation (REDD)** is an endeavour to create an incentive for developing forested countries to protect, better manage and wisely use their forest resources, thus contributing to the global fight against climate change. It rests on the effort to create a financial value for the carbon stored in standing forests. In the long term, payments for verified emission reductions and removals, either market or fund based, provide an incentive for REDD countries to further invest in low-carbon development and a healthier, greener tomorrow.

#### In-country and global support for REDD readiness

The UN-REDD Programme works both at the national and at the international level.

Within countries, the UN-REDD Programme supports processes for REDD readiness and contributes to the development of national REDD strategies. Guided by principles of country ownership and leadership, the Programme provides technical advice on ways to address deforestation and forest degradation, methods and tools for measuring and monitoring greenhouse gas emissions and forest carbon flows. It promotes REDD financing as an opportunity to develop low-carbon growth and helps countries access financial and technical support. The Programme promotes and facilitates broad-ranging consultations among stakeholders, including indigenous peoples and other forest-dependent communities, and helps establish linkages with existing national programmes in the areas of governance, development, poverty reduction, food security and natural resource management.

So far, the formulation process of UN-REDD national programmes has proved quick and efficient, allowing for the approval of most of the initial nine national programmes.

At the international level, the UN-REDD Programme seeks to build consensus and knowledge about



REDD and raise awareness about the importance of including a REDD mechanism in a post-2012 climate change agreement. It also provides opportunities for dialogue between governments, civil society organizations and technical experts, to ensure that REDD efforts are based on science and take into account the views and needs of all stakeholders.

The UN-REDD Programme brings together technical teams from around the world to develop common



approaches, analyses and guidelines on issues such as measurement, reporting and verification (MRV) of carbon emissions and flows, remote sensing, and greenhouse gas inventories. It provides guidance on how best to design and implement REDD, to ensure that forests continue to provide multiple benefits for livelihoods and biodiversity to societies while storing carbon at the same time. Other areas of work include national forest assessments and monitoring of in-country policy and institutional change.

The UN-REDD Programme also documents, analyzes and disseminates successes and key challenges emerging from its activities, and provides numerous

face-to-face opportunities for learning and sharing of experience.

### Working together

The UN-REDD Programme builds on the convening power and expertise of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP).

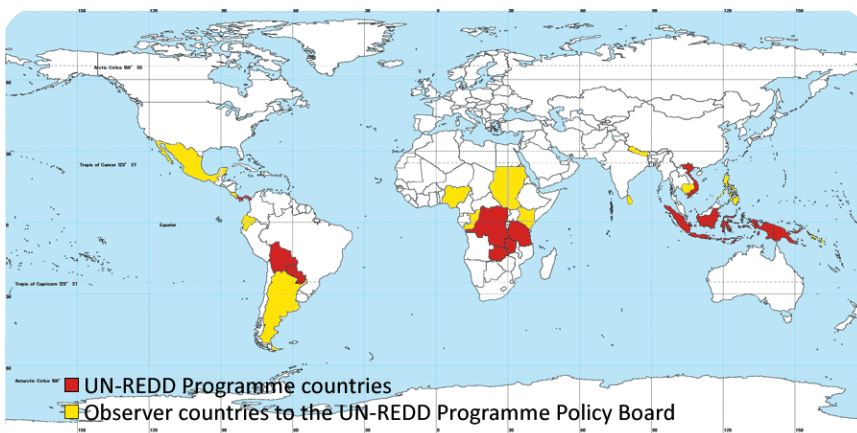
The UN-REDD Programme works in close coordination with the Forest Carbon Partnership Facility (FCPF) and the Forest Investment Program (FIP) both at the international level -- harmonizing normative frameworks and organizing joint events -- and at the national level, where joint missions and sharing of information result in coordinated support interventions. The Programme also works with the Secretariat of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and the Global Environment Facility (GEF), as well as the United Nations Forum on

### Healthy, well managed forests

are essential to the survival of our societies: they are home to millions of species of plants, animals and insects, and protect soils and watersheds from erosion. They act as carbon stores, absorbing greenhouse gases and preventing their release into the atmosphere. Maintaining forest ecosystems can help to increase our resilience to climate change.

Forests (UNFF), members of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests (CPF), donors, civil society, non-governmental organizations, and academia.

The UN-REDD Programme is governed by a Policy Board composed of representatives from partner countries, donors to the multi-donor trust fund, civil society, indigenous peoples and FAO, UNDP and UNEP. All members have an equal voice in decisions on overall leadership, strategic directions and financial allocations. Current funding amounts to US\$75 million contributed by the governments of Norway, Spain and Denmark.



### The UN-REDD Programme initially works with nine member countries

across Africa, Asia and Latin America: Bolivia, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Indonesia, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, United Republic of Tanzania, Viet Nam and Zambia. Argentina, Ecuador, Cambodia, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Costa Rica, Kenya, Mexico, Nigeria, the Philippines, Republic of Congo, Solomon Islands, and Sudan were granted observer status to the UN-REDD Programme Policy Board.

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