



WWF

BRIEF

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# WWF Forest and Climate Initiative

## External Policy Brief: UNFCCC SBSTA & SBI, Bonn 2013

### Overall Expectations on REDD+



#### WWF calls on Parties to achieve an integrated, ambitious package of REDD+ elements

Deforestation and forest degradation contribute significantly to global carbon emissions. For this reason, realization of an effective REDD+ mechanism must be a significant part of a global climate solution. It is therefore imperative that REDD+ design elements are finalized and a clear mechanism to support REDD+ is defined, otherwise, limiting the global temperature rise to 2°C will be impossible.

As such, in Bonn and towards the 19<sup>th</sup> Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC COP 19) WWF is calling on Parties to achieve an **integrated, ambitious package of REDD+ elements** in line with the Bali Action Plan, the Cancun Agreements and the Durban Platform.

The urgency to advance elements of REDD+, in order to create a mechanism that plays a significant role in a global climate solution, has become explicit within the UNFCCC process with the resulting three negotiation tracks from COP 18 in Doha: SBSTA, joint process SBSTA/SBI and the work program under the COP (see *Table 1* for details).

In response to this scenario, WWF is calling for the following:

#### SBSTA

SBSTA 38 must **prioritize its work in order to advance towards completion of the design elements for REDD+**, and as such should:

- Finish work on guidance for **National Forest Monitoring Systems** (NFMS): to provide guidance to developing countries on requirements to accurately monitor carbon. These systems should be designed to integrate information from the safeguards information system.
- Provide guidelines for the process of **Measuring, Reporting and Verifying** (MRV): taking into account how these relate to Durban decisions on Biennial Update Reports (BURs) and International Consultation and Analysis (ICA).
- Decide on a robust technical assessment process of **Reference Level(s) or Reference Emission Level(s)** submitted voluntarily by Parties to the UNFCCC: to ensure climate integrity

and to provide clear signals that submitted REDD+ RLs will be assessed in a fair, transparent and timely manner.

- Finalize guidance on how to address **drivers of deforestation and forest degradation**: to help REDD+ countries to identify drivers and to device specific strategic interventions to address driver activity, as well as to consider them in the forest monitoring systems and in the establishment of reference levels.
- Decide on the **timing and the frequency** of the presentation of the information on how the Cancun **safeguards** are addressed and respected, and if there is need of further guidance for the presentation of the information;

Additionally, SBSTA will have to consider **two new issues in the agenda**: i) how **non-market-based** approaches (such as a joint mitigation and adaptation approach) could be developed, and ii) initiate work on methodological approaches related to **non-carbon benefits** to promote other benefits beyond carbon, such as biodiversity conservation, watershed protection, forest governance, etc.

#### *Joint SBSTA/SBI process*

In Bonn work under the joint SBSTA/SBI process will commence, where Parties should:

- Find ways to improve the **coordination of support** for the implementation of REDD+ activities. Parties may want to focus on agreeing best practices to avoid barriers to access REDD+ finance, as well as to ensure that support is delivered in a timely and coordinated manner.
- Ensure the **provision of adequate and predictable support**, including financial resources and technical and technological support, to developing countries for the implementation of those activities. Parties must show commitment towards REDD+ finance beyond existing fast-start funding for the period until 2020 when a new agreement is to be in place, and clearly demonstrate how to meet the financing needs for all phases of REDD+. Certainty regarding the **financial commitments for REDD+ will create a favourable atmosphere** to advance in the methodological and technical issues related to REDD+.
- Consider the need of specific **institutional arrangements or potential governance alternatives** for REDD+, such as a REDD+ board or committee where decisions about allocation of resources and other implementation decisions can be made. Parties must decide what functions need to be fulfilled first and then decide upon how best to do it, through new or existing institutions.

Additionally:

To date REDD+ has been approached as a fairly independent negotiation subject. Though this has allowed Parties to make faster progress than they have on other issues, we have now reached a point in the negotiations where important decisions on REDD+ are difficult to adopt if there is no **alignment and integration of REDD+ within the broader climate architecture**, particularly regarding NAMAS, MRV, long term finance, the new market-based mechanism, the Green Climate Fund, etc.

To address this, **WWF recommends including REDD+ in the deliberations of the Ad-hoc Working Group on the Durban Platform (ADP)**, both pre- and post-2020.

**Table 1. UNFCCC REDD+ work streams towards COP19**

Body	Thematic coverage	SBs session	CoP19	Output
SBSTA	<p>Previous work:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assessment for RL/REs (1)</li> <li>• Monitoring (3)</li> <li>• MRV (4)</li> <li>• Triggers for safeguards of support (5)</li> <li>• Drivers of deforestation (2)</li> </ul> <p>New work:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How to develop non-market approaches;</li> <li>• Methodological issues for non-carbon benefits.</li> </ul> <p><i>Co-chairs: Canada &amp; Philippines</i></p>	Agenda item in SBSTA 38 & 39	Consider Report	Report for consideration at COP 19
SBSTA / SBI	<p>Joint process to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improve coordination for the implementation of activities in par.70 of 1.CP/16;</li> <li>• Provide adequate and predictable support, including financial resources and technical and technological support to developing country Parties;</li> <li>• Consider institutional arrangements or potential governance alternatives.</li> </ul>	In – session workshop SBSTA/SBI 38	Consider report @ SBSTA/SBI 39	Recommendations to the COP 19
COP	<p>Work Program on results-based finance</p> <p>Co-chairs: Norway &amp; Indonesia</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ways and means to transfer payments for results-based actions;</li> <li>• Ways to incentivize non-carbon benefits;</li> <li>• Ways to improve the coordination of results-based finance;</li> </ul> <p><i>Co-chairs: Indonesia &amp; Norway (should coordinate activities with SBSTA)</i></p>	In – session workshop	In – session workshop	Report for consideration at COP 19 with a view to adopting a decision in this matter

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