



FACTSHEET
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Forest and Climate Initiative

We must act now to secure a future in which our forests stand for good
-for the benefit of people and our planet

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Protect trees, reduce carbon emissions

Forests are vital to people and the planet. Tropical rainforests are home to the greatest diversity of life on Earth, with up to 50% of the world's known species found in them and over 1 billion of the world's people relying upon them for their livelihoods.

Forests are also among the world's largest storehouse of carbon, after oil and coal. When forests are destroyed, the carbon in trees is released into the atmosphere. Today, up to 20% of global carbon emissions come from deforestation and forest degradation – more than the total emissions from the global transportation sector. Quite simply, halting forest loss is a key part of fighting climate change.

Getting REDD+ right

Reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation in developing countries and the conservation, sustainable management of forests, and enhancement of forest carbon stocks (called REDD+) hold a great deal of promise as a way to cut global greenhouse gas emissions. WWF's goal is zero net emissions from deforestation and forest degradation by 2020 – which means we are working to ensure that forests are a key part of tackling climate change. Because forests are valuable for much more than the carbon they store, REDD+ must also benefit people and nature.

Forest & Climate Initiative: Focal landscapes



20%

DEFORESTATION
AND FOREST
DEGRADATION
ACCOUNTS FOR
UP TO 20%
OF GLOBAL
CARBON
EMISSIONS

Guiding Principles for REDD+

CLIMATE	REDD+ demonstrably contributes to greenhouse gas emission reductions with national goals working toward a global objective
BIODIVERSITY	REDD+ maintains and/or enhances forest biodiversity and ecosystem services
LIVELIHOODS	REDD+ contributes to sustainable and equitable development by strengthening the livelihoods of forest-dependent communities
RIGHTS	REDD+ recognizes and respects the rights of indigenous peoples and local communities
FAIR & EFFECTIVE FUNDING	REDD+ mobilizes immediate, adequate and predictable resources for action in priority forest areas in an equitable, transparent, participatory and coordinated manner

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To achieve this, WWF is:

- **Advocating principles in global policy** so frameworks for REDD+ ensure real emissions reductions, conserve biodiversity and protect the rights and wellbeing of forest dwelling communities.
- **Influencing national REDD+ policy** to support development of the needed institutional and legal frameworks for REDD+ by working with governments in the Democratic Republic of Congo, Indonesia and Peru, among others.
- **Scaling up REDD+ demonstration activities in high biodiversity landscapes** in the world's key forest landscapes, including the Amazon, Borneo and Congo Basin, by working with local communities and governments build REDD+ implementation capacities.
- **Convening communities of interest in finance** to explore the conditions under which pledges of financing can catalyze long-term, adequate and predictable financing, including private capital support for REDD+.
- **Innovating technical solutions for REDD+** by monitoring, verifying and reporting on forest carbon to accurately assess whether real progress is being made in REDD+ efforts.

What's next?

We have achieved significant REDD+ readiness efforts in the priority landscapes. We are now working to scale these up, and are moving forward to:

Continue to advocate for an international framework for REDD+ while at the same time working with countries to prepare and implement national REDD+ strategies. From building technical capacity for measuring and monitoring the carbon in forests to addressing the drivers of deforestation, WWF is furthering REDD+ development. At the same time, we are learning valuable lessons from our programmes and partnerships around the world that we're sharing to make sure we get REDD+ right.

WWF's Forest & Climate Initiative

Our vision

REDD+ significantly contributes to the conservation of tropical forest and thereby to the reduction of emissions from deforestation and degradation for the benefit of people and nature.

Our goal

Zero net emissions from deforestation and forest degradation by 2020.

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Why we are here

To stop the degradation of the planet's natural environment and to build a future in which humans live in harmony with nature.

www.panda.org/forestclimate