

UN-REDD Programme update for the FCPF PA13/PC29 Meeting

October 20-22, 2020, virtual

Introduction

- Thank you for this opportunity to provide you with an update from the UN-REDD Programme. I have been able to follow some of the great exchanges today and over the last two days.
- Looking at what is happening globally, we are entering a new era. The decade of negotiations, discussions, readiness is moving into a decade of scaling up.
- As we clearly heard 2 weeks ago in context of UNGA/Biodiversity Summit, there is a strong, widespread political understanding of the potential of solutions from nature for climate, development, Covid recovery.
- This is a great opportunity for the forest agenda: “Ready to go” nature-based climate solutions like REDD+ are starting to get the attention they deserve.
- We have to make sure that forests – the most advanced and largest NBS – are brought into the NBS agenda. COP26 represents a crucial opportunity.
- And it is also very important to bring forest solution into the green recovery agenda:
 - Forests are best shields against emergence of new pathogens, and
 - REDD+ actions are job creators, livelihood generators, essential for socioeconomic recovery

UN-REDD

- UN-REDD is a programme that works with 65 countries. As demonstrated during the discussion, we have very strong collaboration with FCPF and other partners at both country and global levels and we will continue our commitment to take this forward to reach our shared goals on forests and climate.
- Important to recognize that the work we have all done collectively has been instrumental in moving the agenda forward in the past 10 years. And it is critical now to scale this up in next 10 years.
- Some of UN-REDD’s contributions include supporting:
 - 45 countries with forest monitoring systems
 - 36 countries with safeguards requirements
 - 34 countries with REDD+ National strategies, of which 28 countries have adopted them
 - 30 countries with socially inclusive REDD+ actions
 - UN-REDD has mobilized about 1 billion USD dollars (including 350 M USD for RBPs) to participating countries, who have already reported about 700 million tCO₂e in emissions reductions from avoided deforestation and forest degradation, equivalent to taking about 150 M cars off the road for a full year
- We are now equipping the programme for the next phase, with 2021 a transition year.
- A next phase we are structuring along 4 elements:
 - **Forest solutions realised:** *On-the-ground actions to generate forest-based GHG emission reductions and enhanced removals, of increasing quality, across countries and jurisdictions*

- **Forest solutions rewarded:** *Mobilising finance for REDD+ results, including performance-based, finance schemes, emerging carbon markets and private sector's offset commitments*
- **Forest solutions enhanced:** *Raising ambition and acceleration of nationally determined contributions (NDCs) to the Paris Agreement*
- **Connecting actors and knowledge for forest solutions:** *Deploying a global, transformative nature-based solution (NBS) movement to accelerate climate action.*

Conclusions

- **Turning the tide:** In light of the key role forests play, the Secretary-General of the United Nations has called for strong efforts to turn the tide on deforestation. Forests offer the biggest and, through a decade of REDD+, the most immediate nature-based solution that could drive the whole movement forward.
- We are at a make or break moment. The coming year – the Nature Year, as the SG called it – going to be of phenomenal importance. Gives us an opportunity to join the climate, forest, biodiversity, and food agendas under the umbrella of the SDGs.
- UN-REDD will continue to work together to achieve shared objective of REDD+ implementation, reinforcing successful partnerships
- **Thank you.**