

Thank you for this opportunity to provide an update on the UN-REDD Program. Similar to the FCPF, the Program is celebrating its 10-year anniversary this year – a key milestone to take stock of the results achieved in partnership with 64 forested developing countries.

To celebrate this milestone, the Program will organize a joint UN-system side event at COP24 in Poland as well as a reception event together with its partners and donors.

Next week the Program will hold its second Executive Board meeting, providing an opportunity to review the Program's continued progress and reengage our stakeholders, with representatives of government, indigenous peoples, civil society organizations, and donors.

A growing number of the 64 UN-REDD partner countries are now preparing for and implementing REDD+ actions against the backdrop of the Paris Agreement on Climate Change and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. UN-REDD has responded to this demand by supporting partner countries to move beyond the Warsaw Framework for REDD+ to consider the broader agenda and to achieve results on the ground.

Over the last 10 years UN-REDD has been the largest provider of REDD+ readiness assistance in terms of funding, expertise and geographical scope.

The Program continues to build on the best practice approaches, innovations and complementary experience of its three partner agencies – FAO, UNDP and UN Environment – to provide the network of technical experts and the convening capacity that has underpinned the success of UN-REDD since its onset.

Some highlights from 2017:

- 37 partner countries received customized UN-REDD Program support through National Programs, targeted support, technical assistance, community-based REDD+ initiatives, and country and regional needs assessments. Each of these work areas built on a foundation of ten years of UN-REDD country-level programming.
- Ongoing National Programs in 12 countries helped UN-REDD partners across Africa, Asia and the Pacific, and Latin America and the Caribbean move closer to completing the requirements under the Warsaw Framework for REDD+.
- Moreover, technical experts from across the UN-REDD partner organizations supported countries to move beyond the Warsaw Framework to develop investment plans for resource mobilization and REDD+ implementation. As part of this shift, the UN-REDD Program launched its technical assistance to REDD+ implementation project in 16 countries in response to country demand and to target those partners already on the path to achieving REDD+ results.
- Knowledge management and exchange continued to play an important role both at country and at global levels. By increasing the understanding of REDD+ actions and fostering exchange on approaches and lessons, the Program helps countries accelerate their progress towards REDD+ readiness and improve implementation.
- The Program continues to value and coordinate closely with the FCPF in many countries, for example in Colombia where UN-REDD fostered complementary interventions in the participatory process for the implementation for Colombia's REDD+ strategy.

I would like to take this opportunity to highlight some specific contributions of the Program.

On **readiness**: A key focus of the Program has been on supporting countries in their efforts to complete the 4 pillars of the Warsaw Framework for REDD+:

- 30+ countries advanced their National REDD+ strategies and action plans (NS/APs), including 17 that finalized and adopted them.
- 40 countries have been supported in NFMS development since UN-REDD inception
- Of the 34 countries that have submitted FREL/FRLs to the UNFCCC, over 70% have received UN-REDD Program support
- 15 countries supported with their country approaches to meeting UNFCCC safeguards requirements.

On **implementation**: The Program is supported countries in:

- Incorporating REDD+ in their NDCs
- Implementing investment plans and mobilizing associated resources
- Recognizing the importance of enhancing cross-sectoral cooperation to manage natural resources
- Recognizing tenure rights and good governance as key factors for successful REDD+ implementation

Support to cross-cutting issues has remained central to the Program and I will provide several examples:

With regards Social inclusion UN-REDD is anchored in the human-rights based approach and has further strengthened its commitment to stakeholder engagement through the development of mechanisms to enable the full and effective inclusion of women, indigenous peoples, civil society organizations, local communities and other stakeholders in the design and decision-making of REDD+ actions.

With regards the Community-Based REDD+ Initiative. The initiative has been completed, with over 100 community projects across 6 pilot countries (Cambodia, DRC, Nigeria, Panama, Paraguay and Sri Lanka).

With regards Gender, it remains central to planning and implementation. In 2017, 23 Countries made significant strides in integrating gender equality, increasingly employing the [UN-REDD Methodological Brief on Gender](#).

With regards Tenure and Governance UN-REDD continues work to support countries in conducting assessments of their tenure regimes and enhancing their forest governance capabilities.

With regards Knowledge management UN-REDD has responded to growing partner demand for knowledge management. In 2017 the Program hosted 51 workshops (with 44% women participation, and 89% satisfaction rate), and developed 45 knowledge products.

With regards south-south exchange the Program considers that the most valuable progress happens when our partner countries share their own experiences through South-South exchanges. On this basis we have supported south-south exchanges across all regions on topics such as Forest Reference Levels jurisdictional approaches to REDD+ and linkages to national policy frameworks.

Last but not least, the Program is actively involved in the preparation process for the UN Secretary-General Climate Summit in September 2019, which provides the occasion to raise forest ambition and scale up forest and REDD+ action.

Achieving our shared objective of REDD+ implementation means reinforcing successful partnerships, including our collaboration with the FCPF. The work carried out by the FCPF and UN-REDD already demonstrates that this is possible 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. UN-REDD highly values the coordination with the FCPF and have included a dedicated section in our Annual Reports on “Partnerships and synergies with other multilateral mechanisms such as the FCPF”, where for each partner country we highlight joint work and synergies. We envisage and expect that this excellent collaboration will continue.

Thank you.