

REDD+

UNLOCKING THE POTENTIAL OF FORESTS TO ADDRESS CLIMATE CHANGE

REDD+

Reduced Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation, plus the role of conservation, sustainable management of forests and the enhancement of forest carbon stocks.¹

REDD+ is an international mechanism established under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change that provides economic, social and environmental incentives for developing countries to reduce emissions

Under REDD+, developing countries and landholders that protect and restore forests are rewarded for their role in securing a safer climate.

from deforestation and related activities through the creation of carbon credits. Under REDD+, developing countries and landholders that protect and restore forests are rewarded for their role in securing a healthier climate.

For example, a community could receive REDD+ funding or training to improve yields from existing farmland in return for avoiding the clearing of standing forests.

¹ REDD (reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation) is a UN recognized framework through which developing countries are rewarded financially for any emissions reductions associated with a decrease in the conversion of forests to alternative land uses. REDD+ evolved through recognition that a comprehensive approach to mitigating climate change should also simultaneously alleviate poverty, conserve biodiversity and sustain vital ecosystem services.

Simply put, REDD+ is a mechanism that values the carbon potential of forests, encourages conservation and improves livelihoods.

READY FOR BUSINESS INVESTMENT

After more than a decade of on-the-ground experience and rapid advances in practices and technologies, forest carbon projects are now viewed as among the most robust of all offset activities. Companies that invest in REDD+ projects represent a range of industries and include BHP, Microsoft, Disney and Qantas Airways.

REDD+ offers a proven path for the private sector to conserve forests and invest in the social good of local communities. An investment in REDD+:

- **Reduces Emissions:** A steady supply and low costs make REDD+ credits an attractive offset type for emerging compliance markets.
- **Demonstrates Commitment to Conservation:** Forests harbor 75% of all terrestrial

biodiversity and provide ecosystem services such as fresh water.

- **Provides Immediate Carbon Benefits:** Unlike the time horizon necessary to see impact through reforestation or technological solutions, the impact of REDD+ is immediate.
- **Supports Sustainable Livelihoods for Local Communities:** Approximately 1.6 billion people globally rely on forests for their livelihoods and health.
- **Empowers Women:** Local women can generate more than 50% of their income from forests.
- **Exhibits Leadership in Climate Innovation:** Investment in REDD+ distinguishes

companies as climate leaders in a high-growth carbon market.

- **Increases and Maintains Host Country Goodwill:** The immediate and direct financing from REDD+ provides long-term commitment to a host country's communities, biodiversity, ecosystems and development while helping achieve Nationally Determined Contributions as required by the Paris Agreement and U.N. Sustainable Development Goals.
- **Supports Flexible Mechanisms for Policy Obligations:** Inclusion of REDD+ in existing and emerging compliance markets will drive more investment and finance into conserving forests. Companies can support the case for flexible mechanisms and offsets as a means of meeting emissions reduction requirements.

By helping society value forests for their carbon sequestration, REDD+ offers a key opportunity for the private sector to address deforestation, contribute to climate change solutions, and improve lives. It is an approach that comes with proven outcomes demonstrated on the ground, through governance and via market support.

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Learn more: www.conservation.org/redd

FINANCE FOR
FORESTS

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BHP

