

IUCN's activities at the international level:

- Co-leading and supporting the activities of The Forest Dialogue (TFD) to develop a road map for the comprehensive treatment of forests within international post-2012 climate policies
- Working with the Collaborative Partnership on Forests (CPF) to provide leadership and guidance on how REDD activities can build on, and be incorporated within, sustainable forest management activities
- Learning how to optimize links between national REDD pilot activities (including those supported by the World Bank) and ongoing forest sector reform processes
- Exploring, with the Poverty-Environment Partnership (PEP), institutional arrangements, financing mechanisms and the elaboration of basic principles and guidelines for the pro-poor implementation of REDD at national and sub-national levels



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REDD Opportunities

Integrating Sustainable Forest Management Approaches



Forest Conservation Programme

Major reductions in global greenhouse gas emissions are necessary if we are to avoid disastrous climate change. IUCN believes that Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Degradation (REDD) can help achieve this goal if it is based on sustainable forest management and integrated into broader carbon emission reduction strategies.

Deforestation and forest degradation contribute up to 20% to global anthropogenic greenhouse gas emissions. Weak forest governance and the marginalization of forest dependent communities are important factors that exacerbate forest loss and degradation. As long as these challenges remain unresolved, the success of REDD is uncertain and REDD mechanisms might even inadvertently reinforce corruption, undermine human rights and threaten forest biodiversity.



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If REDD mechanisms are based on the lessons learned in sustainable forest management over the past 30 years, they will not only help to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, but also contribute to the maintenance of biodiversity and the well-being of forest dependent communities.

Furthermore, the maintenance of a full range of forest goods and services does not only enhance ecosystem resilience to climate change but also helps forest dependent communities to cope with the impacts of extreme weather events.

IUCN emphasizes that REDD mechanisms need to...

- Integrate with, and complement, a broader strategy for deeper cuts in fossil fuel emissions
- Integrate with ongoing forest governance reform processes that aim to clarify, and secure, the rights of forest-dependent communities, facilitate the equitable sharing of benefits, promote sustainable forest management and enhance ecosystem integrity and biodiversity conservation
- Integrate with ecosystem-based approaches that address the drivers of deforestation and degradation at a landscape level and take into account the multiple functions and values of forests



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IUCN's activities at the national level:

- Investigating how to integrate REDD mechanisms into national forest governance reform initiatives. IUCN's extensive network of nationally and regionally based experts in forest governance and policy reform provides critical expertise in this field as well as direct links to key decision making processes in tropical forest countries
- Promoting the equitable participation of local marginalized stakeholders in the establishment of REDD mechanisms in order to ensure that tenure, rights, gender equity and rural livelihoods are adequately

taken into consideration in the design of these activities

- Building capacity for, and supporting the establishment of, credible institutional arrangements (including those for equitable benefit sharing) that enable tropical forest countries to engage meaningfully in climate change mitigation action
- Learning about how to integrate REDD into ecosystem-based approaches that reflect locally-owned priorities and solutions aimed at supporting rural livelihoods and conserving biodiversity