



REDUCING DEFORESTATION & FOREST DEGRADATION, & ENHANCING ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES IN TROPICAL FORESTS

REDD+ES

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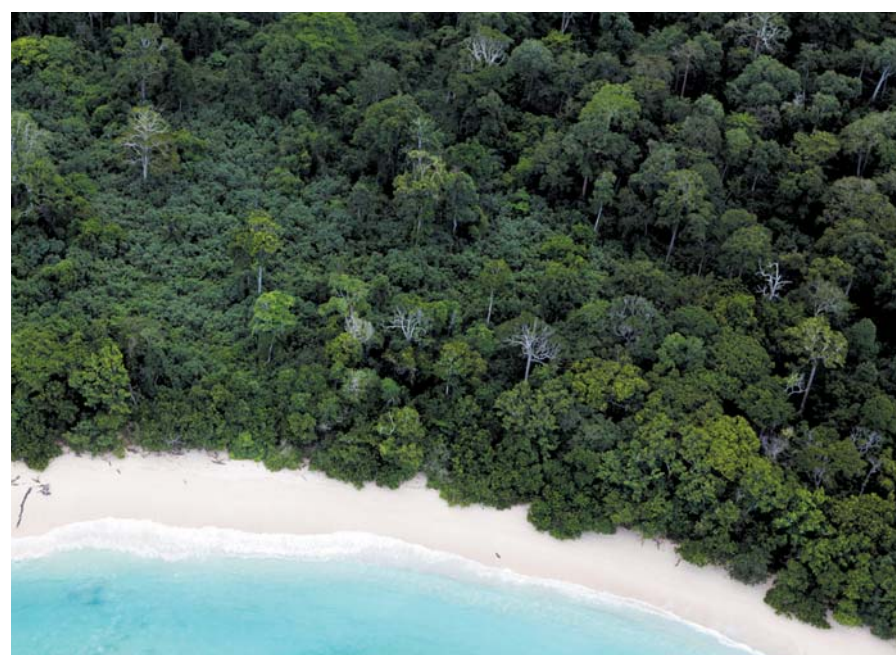
Actively supports emerging international and national priorities on REDD+ policy development and implementation.

Strengthens enabling conditions for enhancing environmental services and reducing deforestation and forest degradation.

Promotes Sustainable Forest Management (SFM) by addressing the economic, social and environmental values of forests for effective climate change responses.

SUPPORTING EFFECTIVE INTERNATIONAL CLIMATE CHANGE RESPONSES BY ENHANCING REDD+ MECHANISMS & ENGAGING GOVERNMENTS, THE PRIVATE SECTOR & COMMUNITIES TO SUSTAINABLY IMPLEMENT REDD+ PROJECTS.

WHY IS REDUCING DEFORESTATION & FOREST DEGRADATION & ENHANCING ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES IN TROPICAL FORESTS NEEDED?



Coastal forest in Meru Betiri National Park, Java, Indonesia. Photo: T. Bruder

CASE STUDY: INDONESIA

Meru Betiri National Park (MBNP) is a thriving tropical forest of around 58,000 hectares in East Java, Indonesia. MBNP is home to rich and diverse ecosystems, but the forests and local communities are increasingly under threat from illegal encroachment and logging.

Recognizing these issues, ITTO – with the support of Seven & i Holdings (Japan) – created a robust measurable, reportable and verifiable (MRV) system to monitor greenhouse gas emissions caused by deforestation and forest degradation, and account for increases in forest carbon stocks in the park. In collaboration with private sector partners, the national government and a local NGO, ITTO facilitated the active participation of the local community to prevent deforestation, forest degradation and biodiversity loss.

In creating a positive enabling environment for the local community by raising awareness, ITTO's work in the MBNP helped implement an effective MRV system, contributing directly to building a collaborative vision for REDD+, biodiversity conservation and livelihood improvements.

TROPICAL FORESTS ABSORB AND STORE LARGE QUANTITIES OF CARBON, MAKING THEIR PRESERVATION ONE OF THE MOST EFFECTIVE WAYS OF MITIGATING CLIMATE CHANGE.

Home to a vast array of plant and animal species, tropical forests also provide clean water, food, medicine and materials to forest-dependent communities.

Despite their crucial importance, each year over 10 million hectares of forest (mostly in the tropics) are converted to other uses or lost through natural causes.¹ Without immediate action, the already serious effects of deforestation and forest degradation will worsen and lead to decreased carbon sequestration, loss of biodiversity and depleted economic development opportunities for both forest-dependent communities and humankind.

Reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation (REDD+) is a critical global response to these issues, but it is also widely recognized that successfully implementing REDD+ is a great challenge. ITTO's REDDES Programme is a leading mechanism to support cost-effective global carbon mitigation by making REDD+ a reality.

The REDDES Programme facilitates both policy formulation and implementation by actively collaborating and integrating with existing REDD+ mechanisms, such as UN-REDD. Building on ITTO's longstanding partnerships and extensive knowledge and experience delivering projects in cooperation with local communities, REDDES achieves results on the ground to support international REDD+ initiatives in delivering global environmental services.

PROGRAMME OVERVIEW

The Reducing Deforestation and Forest Degradation and Enhancing Environmental Services in Tropical Forests (REDD+ Programme) provides solutions to reduce deforestation and forest degradation in forest communities and promote the restoration of environmental services by implementing Sustainable Forest Management (SFM). Supported by a streamlined and effective funding process, forest communities, civil society organisations, government agencies, donors and the private sector are invited to submit project proposals, which are then assessed and prioritized to determine those that will create dynamic partnerships among stakeholders.

REDD+ PROJECTS FALL INTO 4 KEY AREAS

- 1) **Assessment and Diagnosis.**
 - Improve data and knowledge on forest environmental services.
 - Provide policy related assessments to assist with planning and design of enabling conditions for SFM and help establish country capacity for effective REDD+ implementation.
- 2) **Enabling Conditions and Capacity-Building.**
 - Create enabling conditions for reducing deforestation and forest degradation and enhancing environmental services for global carbon and local community benefits.
 - Build capacity among stakeholders in implementing SFM.
- 3) **Demonstration Activities.**
 - Implement local demonstration projects and activities targeting SFM and the restoration and rehabilitation of degraded forests.
 - Assist communities in realizing the benefits of environmental services through their direct participation.
- 4) **Expansion and Dissemination.**
 - Establish scalable communication tools, networks, products and events to raise awareness of opportunities associated with REDD+ projects.
 - Support knowledge management and lessons learned in cooperation with existing REDD+ initiatives.



Forest in Meru Betiri National Park, Java, Indonesia. Photo: T. Bruder

THE REDUCING DEFORESTATION AND FOREST DEGRADATION AND ENHANCING ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES IN TROPICAL FORESTS (REDD+) PROGRAMME DELIVERS BENEFITS FOR:

GOVERNMENT & THE PUBLIC SECTOR



IMPACT: Enhances governance systems and social and environmental safeguards to assist countries in meeting their national and international climate commitments.

DONORS & THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY



IMPACT: Minimizes risk and improves cost-efficiency for donor countries in meeting their climate commitments through improved monitoring, reporting and verification, forest protection processes and sustained local partnerships.

FOREST DEPENDENT COMMUNITIES



IMPACT: Reduces rural poverty and creates more resilient livelihoods through increased employment opportunities and improved skills and social capital.

THE PRIVATE SECTOR



IMPACT: Provides access to increased revenue from carbon finance, improved forest resources for sustainable production and finance streams to maintain and enhance environmental services.

WHAT WE CAN **ACHIEVE**

Preventing deforestation results in local and global benefits that help address some of the world's biggest challenges, such as climate change, biodiversity conservation and the protection of global ecosystem services. REDD+ is a pillar of international climate policy, but successfully implementing REDD+ programmes and projects is not a simple task. The Reducing Deforestation and Forest Degradation and Enhancing Environmental Services in Tropical Forests (REDDES) Programme builds on ITTO's long-standing track record of working in partnership with governments, the private sector and local communities to address the root causes of forest loss and degradation, thereby helping to meet REDD+ objectives.

In addition to creating global climate change benefits and increased biodiversity conservation, expanding the REDDES Programme will result in improved forest governance and economic stability for local communities. Tropical timber producing countries will also benefit from protecting and managing their environmental services, leading to more sustainable economies and emissions reductions.

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*Kuankus River, Ecuador.
Photo: A. Bellusi & N. Kingman*



PARTNER WITH US

To successfully deliver the Reducing Deforestation and Forest Degradation and Enhancing Environmental Services in Tropical Forests (REDDES) Programme over the next four years, ITTO requires an additional US\$5 million per year.

The REDDES Programme is just one of ITTO's key areas of work and we need your support to deliver it successfully. Download our Strategic Action Plan for 2013-2018 at www.itto.int/publicity_materials, which outlines ITTO's programmes of work and opportunities for donor support. For more information please contact tp@itto.int.

By partnering together, we can help sustain the world's tropical forests. Our work over the last 30 years has built a strategic, targeted global response to some of the world's most challenging issues. Through collaboration with international institutions and local organisations we have made significant progress in the sustainable management of tropical forests but there is still much to achieve. To learn more about ITTO, the REDDES Programme and how to support our projects, visit us at www.itto.int.

WHY ITTO TO REDUCE DEFORESTATION?

Since 1989, ITTO has successfully collaborated with member countries to put policies into practice, promoting diverse REDD+ activities through local projects and capacity-building initiatives. More than 1000 projects have been implemented to support the sustainable management of tropical forests in producing member countries. ITTO is unparalleled in its ability to facilitate effective partnerships among governments, the private sector and local communities.

Launched in 2009, the Reducing Deforestation and Forest Degradation and Enhancing Environmental Services in Tropical Forests (REDDES) Programme has approved over 31 projects for funding across Africa, Asia and Latin America. REDDES collaborates closely with FAO, the UN-REDD Programme and other international and bilateral aid agencies' REDD+ initiatives to undertake complementary crosscutting actions.