



MINISTRY OF WATER AND ENVIRONMENT

# What you need to know about the National REDD+ Program in Uganda

UGANDA NATIONAL  
**REDD+**  
PROGRAMME

## What is REDD+?

**R**EDD+ stands for Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and forest Degradation. The plus sign stands for forest conservation, sustainable forest management and enhancement of forest carbon stocks in developing countries including Uganda. It is an incentive-based mechanism that has been negotiated under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change since 2005, with the objective of mitigating climate change through reducing emissions of greenhouse gases by improved sustainable forest management in developing countries.

Uganda has embraced REDD+ to address Deforestation and forest Degradation. The main causes of deforestation are expansion/encroachment of small-holder agriculture into forests and bush lands (for subsistence and commercial farming) un-sustainable wood fuel extraction (charcoal and firewood), un-sustainable and illegal timber harvesting, large-scale commercial agriculture (ranches and agricultural farms), free-grazing of livestock, wood harvesting, wild fires, artisanal mining operations and oil extraction.

It is anticipated that REDD+ activities will improve management of Uganda's forests and enhance removal of carbon dioxide from the atmosphere through the following options:

- Climate smart agriculture (such as agroforestry and greenhouse cultivation of vegetables);
- Sustainable fuel wood and (commercial)

- charcoal use (establishing bio-energy woodlots, community poles/timber plantations, improved charcoal production, bio-energy woodlots);
- Large-scale commercial timber plantations (for transmission poles, timber plantations);
- Rehabilitation of natural forests in the landscape (through natural regeneration, enrichment planting and collaborative/traditional/customary forest management approaches);
- Energy efficient cooking stoves; and,
- Integrated wildfire management (in timber plantations, woodlands, bushlands and grasslands).

For the carbon stock accumulated, Uganda will receive incentives for managing forests and maintaining a wide range of values such as biodiversity, water supply, soil protection and wealth creation for improved livelihoods (including those of the forest dependent poor.

## How is Uganda supposed to implement REDD+ Activities?

- 1. The Readiness Phase** – Uganda is designing strategies and action plans to reduce emissions, building capacity for implementation of REDD+, working on applicable policies and measures and designing demonstration activities.
- 2. Implementation Phase** - the national REDD+ strategy, policies and action plans proposed will be tested and implemented. These may include additional capacity building, technological development and transfer and piloting results based demonstration activities like Payment for Ecosystem Services.
- 3. Result based actions Phase** (also known as the Performance Based) - Uganda will receive payments according to their performance in green house gases reductions and sequestrations. The payments will support national level institutions, individual land owners/tree owners and indigenous people.

## Who will be involved in implementation?

- Forest users such as indigenous peoples,
- Forest dependent communities,
- Forest land owners,
- Tree owners,
- Civil society organizations,
- Government agencies,
- Project developers and,
- Investors among others.

## Drivers of Deforestation

- i. Expansion/encroachment of small-holder agriculture into forests and bush-lands
- ii. Unsustainable wood-fuel extraction (charcoal and firewood)
- iii. Unsustainable timber harvesting
- iv. Large-scale commercial agriculture
- v. Livestock free-grazing
- vi. Wood harvesting
- vii. Wild fires
- viii. Artisanal mining operations and oil extraction

## Underlying causes of Deforestation

- i. Population growth
- ii. Economic growth
- iii. Poverty
- iv. Insecure tenure
- v. Governance
- vi. Culture

## What are the eligible activities that Uganda will implement?

- (a) Reducing emissions from deforestation.
- (b) Reducing emissions from forest degradation.
- (c) Sustainable forest management.
- (d) Enhancement of forest carbon stocks
- (e) Conservation of forest carbon stocks

## What are the proposed strategies?

The proposed strategies to address deforestation and forest degradation are:

- Climate smart agriculture (such as agroforestry);
- Sustainable fuelwood and charcoal use (bio-energy woodlots, community poles/timber plantations, bio-energy woodlots);
- Large-scale commercial timber plantations;
- Rehabilitation of natural forests in the landscape;
- Energy efficient cooking stoves; and,
- Integrated wildfire management (in timber plantations, woodlands, bushlands and grasslands).
- Livestock rearing in the cattle corridor (e.g establishment of fodder, livestock breeding among others).

## What will be the benefits?

REDD+ may include the following categories of benefits:

### a) Monetary benefits

- Cash - from direct sale of carbon credits.
- Economic flow - on benefits from tourism
- Tax incentives (designed to promote REDD+ activities)
- Access to credit on preferential terms
- Salaries and allowances

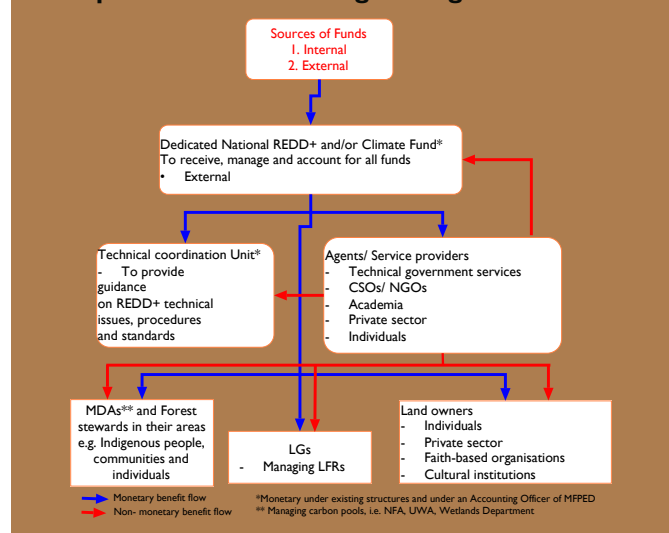
### b) Direct benefits (non-monetary)

- Capacity building, training, extension (governance, bookkeeping, nursery and plantation management, environmental management plans)
- Community infrastructure like schools, clinics
- Legal access to fuel wood and non-timber forest products
- Rent-free land for commercial plantations
- Alternative livelihoods (community nurseries, Shea-nuts, beekeeping, coffee, timber, fuel wood, fruit, carbon credits)
- Support for acquiring communal and freehold land title
- Community nurseries
- Ecological restoration and monitoring of priority habitat
- Land-use plan; improved land/forest tenure
- Improved market access and business networks

### c) Indirect Benefits (non-monetary)

- Reforestation of degraded areas, reduced flood, drought and landslide risk
- Improved resilience to seasonal variations
- Health benefits, cleaner air from more efficient cook stoves
- Improved water quality and quantity
- Decreased human/wildlife conflict
- Increased support for biodiversity conservation
- Improved working relationships (including trans-boundary)
- Improved working conditions for employees
- Travel opportunities to share knowledge and experiences
- Pride, prestige and social status.

## Proposed Benefit Sharing Arrangements model



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