



REPUBLIC OF UGANDA
MINISTRY OF WATER AND ENVIRONMENT

Know more about Uganda's REDD+ Programme



REDD+ 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. Deforestation is mainly caused by expansion/encroachment of small-holder agriculture into forests and bushlands (subsistence and commercial farming), un-sustainable wood-fuel extraction (charcoal and firewood), un-sustainable timber harvesting, large-scale commercial agriculture (ranches and agricultural farms), free-grazing of livestock, wood harvesting, wild fires and artisanal mining operations.

REDD+ will be implemented through strategic options and if successfully implemented, it will have a wide range



Wildfires are one of the biggest sources of carbon emissions in Uganda

of benefits. These include; biodiversity conservation and ecosystem services such as water regulation, soil conservation, reduced floods and landslides, improved resilience to seasonal variations, timber, forest foods and other non-timber forest products.

Early actions in REDD+ implementation

Uganda prepared a Forest Investment Plan (FIP), a USD 234 million financial support from the World Bank's Climate Investment Programme. This plan was approved by the Forest Investment Programme Sub-Committee in June 2017.

The drivers of deforestation and forest degradation and corresponding REDD+ Strategic Options formed the basis for the design of Uganda's FIP. This investment plan has been designed to provide support to early actions in REDD+ implementation, bridging the gap between the REDD+ readiness phase and results-based payments.

The core FIP objective is to reduce emission of Green House Gases from deforestation and forest

degradation, enhance forest carbon stocks and strengthen forestry governance. This means that the investment plan aims at a low carbon and climate resilient development in land use.

The Investments Projects will include:

- **Project 1:** Climate Resilient Landscapes, Integrated Catchment Management and Nature-Based Tourism in Uganda's Albertine Rift (USD 129 million, \$18 from FIP, led by World Bank).
- **Project 2:** Climate Resilient Landscapes, Integrated Catchment Management and Nature Based Tourism in Uganda's Lake Kyoga and Upper Nile Water Management Zone (USD 83 million, \$12m from FIP, to be led by African Development Bank).
- **Project 3:** Strengthening capacity for forestry governance and policy implementation (USD \$22 million, the is to be determined).

Drivers of Deforestation and Forest Degradation in Uganda



Unsustainable wood fuel extraction for firewood and charcoal



Large scale commercial agriculture and expansion/encroachment of small holder agriculture into forests and bush lands.



In 1990, Uganda's forests constituted 24% of the total land area, this dropped to only 9% in 2015.

The biggest loss was registered on private land. Other drivers of

deforestation and forest degradation include; wildfires, livestock free grazing, unsustainable and illegal timber harvesting, artisanal mining operations, over grazing, shifting cultivation, excessive logging among others.

What will be implemented under REDD+?

The following are the proposed options for Uganda are;

- Climate-smart agriculture intervention,
- Sustainable fuelwood and (commercial) charcoal use,
- Establishment of commercial timber plantations,
- Promoting energy efficient cookstoves,
- Restoration of natural forests,
- Improve wildfire management,
- Improve livestock rearing in the cattle corridor,
- Strengthening policy implementation.

REDD+ implementation is in phases

- 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** - national strategies, 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** – here actions to reduce deforestation and forest degradation will be supported at the national level and the result of these actions are fully measured, reported and also verified.

Potential impacts of successful REDD+ implementation



REDD+ will provide incentives for managing forests better, to reduce carbon emissions and to maintain a wide range of values such as biodiversity, water supply, soil protection and wealth creation for improved livelihoods.

Who will be involved?

Forest users such as indigenous people, forest dependent communities, forest land owners, tree owners, Civil Society Organisations, government agencies, project developers and investors among others.



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