



Know more about Uganda's REDD+ Program

REDD+ stands for Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and forest Degradation in developing countries (including Uganda). The plus sign stands for forest conservation, sustainable forest management and enhancement of forest carbon stocks in developing countries. 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.



A typical agro-forestry garden in Inomo sub-county, Apac

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 for maize, cassava, sorghum, cotton, tobacco and other crops), 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 conducted by refugees, wild fires, artisanal mining operations and oil extraction.
- Some of the causes of forest degradation include fire, storm, drought, pest, disease

or human activities such as charcoal burning, excessive logging, excessive fuel wood collection, shifting cultivation, hunting and overgrazing among others.

REDD+ will be implemented through strategic options detailed here under but will have the following benefits if successfully implemented:

- a) Monetary benefits (such as Cash -** from direct sale of carbon credits, Access to credit on preferential terms and salaries and allowances among others
- b) Direct benefits (non-monetary - such as** capacity building, training, extension (governance, bookkeeping, nursery and plantation management, environmental management plans among others).
- c) Indirect Benefits (non-monetary - such as** reforestation of degraded areas, reduced flood, drought and landslide risk and improved resilience to seasonal variations among others.

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.

The proposed Strategic Options

The proposed strategic options for REDD+ in Uganda are summarized here under:

Climate-smart agriculture intervention.

- This will involve implementing activities related to:
 - Sustainable land use and agro-forestry practices at household level to reduce encroachment on the remaining forest estate.
 - Rainwater harvesting with collection tank and drip irrigation to store water for use in irrigation during scarcity.
 - Greenhouse cultivation of vegetables to enhance production and improve nutrition.
 - Establishing fodder trees and stall-feeding.
 - Changing to exotic cattle varieties and crossbreeding.
 - Reduction of excess free-grazing of traditional livestock.

Sustainable fuel wood and (commercial) charcoal use.

- The interventions will include:
 - Small-holder tree planting and community bio-energy woodlots
 - Small-holder and community poles and timber plantations
 - Improved charcoal kilns linked to bio-energy woodlots

Large-scale commercial timber plantations

- The sub-options will include:
 - Commercial eucalypt transmission pole and timber plantation;
 - Commercial pine pole and sawlog plantation;
 - Improved charcoal kilns linked to plantation sites.

Rehabilitation of natural forests in the landscape.

- The proposed means are:
 - Area closures of deforested areas for natural forest regeneration;
 - Protected natural forest management (i.e. national parks and forest reserves);
 - Devolution of forest management through Participatory Forest Management and similar set-ups;
 - Traditional/customary forest management practices.

Energy efficient mechanisms.

- This strategic option promotes Clean Cooking Solutions through improved fuel wood and charcoal stoves, and a fuel switching to biogas, a modern clean form of energy and rural electrification (mini-hydropower plants, wood-fired gasification plants; and Solar photovoltaic (PV) power plants or systems.

Integrated wildfire management

- This will include:
 - planting green-fire belts along the forest boundaries,
 - educating local communities on the dangers of fire,
 - formation of fire volunteer squads
 - Development and enforcement of by-laws to protect fire and sanctioning forest offenders.

Potential impacts of successful REDD+ implementation



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