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Overview and prospect of REDD+ and 10 years of experience of the UN-REDD Programme

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FAO's work on REDD+

Goal

Supporting countries in their efforts to **reduce emissions from deforestation and forest degradation**, enhancing and **conserving** tropical forests and other **high-carbon ecosystems**.

Mandate

UNFCCC Decisions, the Paris Agreement and the SDGs

- Technical assistance and expertise
- Capacity development
- Resource mobilization
- Knowledge sharing



United Nations
Climate Change



**SUSTAINABLE
DEVELOPMENT** **GOALS**

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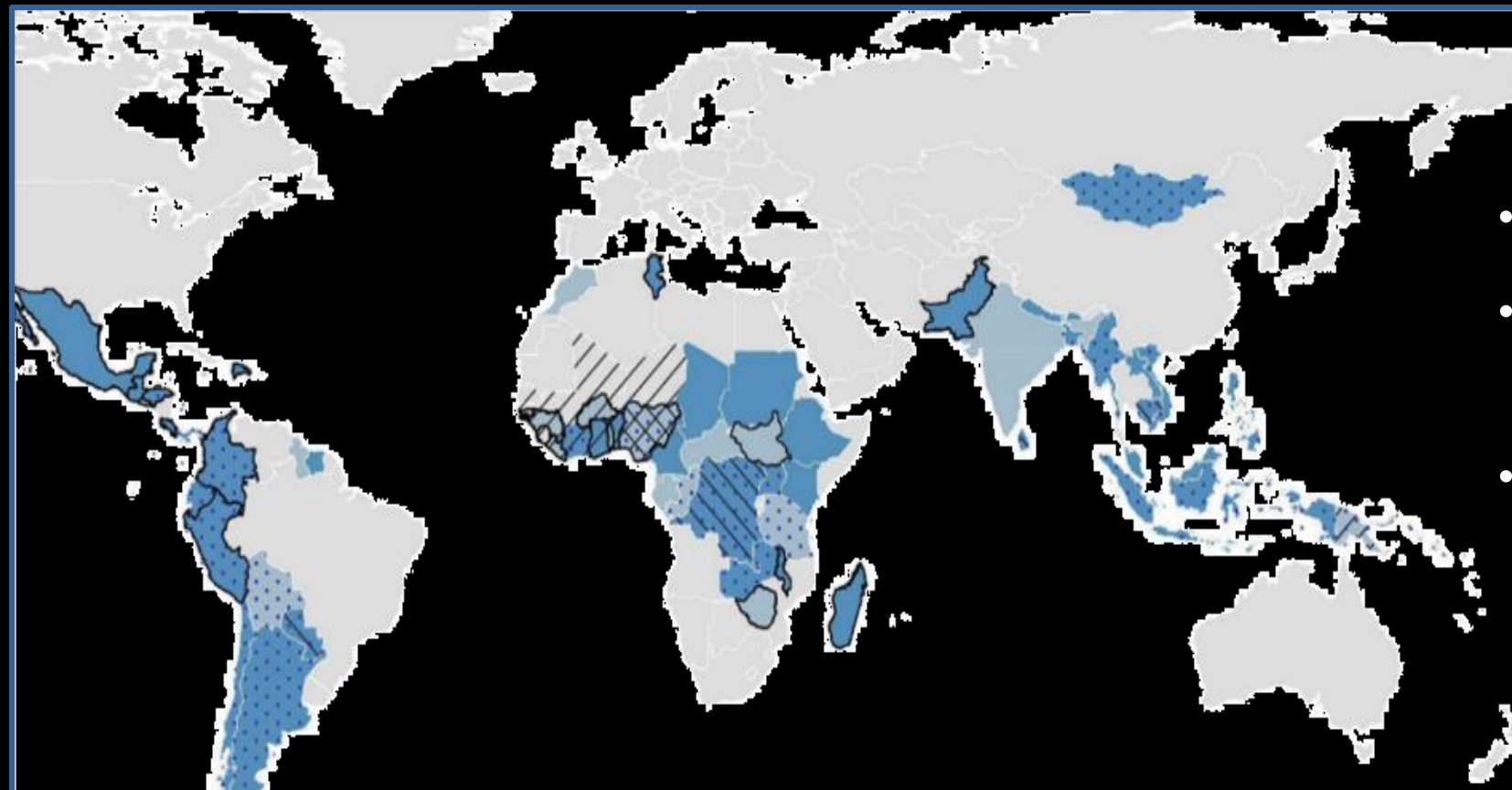


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UN-REDD Programme, a flagship UN initiative on REDD+

- Partnership of UNDP, UNEP and FAO established by UN- SG Mr. Ban Ki Moon, 2008
- Donors: Denmark, Japan, Luxembourg, Norway, Spain, Switzerland, the EU



- 65 countries
- Capacity development for REDD+
- 26 countries larger interventions NPS (USD 5-10M)



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Forests for Climate and Sustainable Development

- Forests provide opportunity to increase current commitments in the NDCs to bridge the emission gap in 2030
- Forests are key to accelerate the climate ambition and sustainable development



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Key figures - forests

- **1.6 billion** people depend on forests and **2.4 billion** rely on firewood or charcoal for cooking
- Forests provide **10 million jobs** and income for **30-50 million** people in developing countries
- Essential for food security and human well-being
- Home to **80%** of terrestrial biodiversity
- **7%** are planted forests, producing **45%** of global industrial round wood



Forest area and its changes

- Global forest area: **4 billion ha**
- Net annual decrease: 3.3 million ha/year (2010 – 2015)
- Tropical tree cover loss in **2018: 12 mio ha** (WRI, Hansen), 4th highest annual loss since 2001
- Main driver of deforestation is **agricultural expansion**:
 - 40% large-scale commercial agriculture
 - 33% local subsistence agriculture
- 10% infrastructure, 10% urban expansion, 7% mining

This year FAO will launch FRA 2020!!!



AGRICULTURE, FORESTS AND THE SDGS

1990-2015: Net loss of 129 M ha of forests

Impacts on livelihoods, biodiversity and climate change...



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In 2007 REDD+ was set up to be transformational

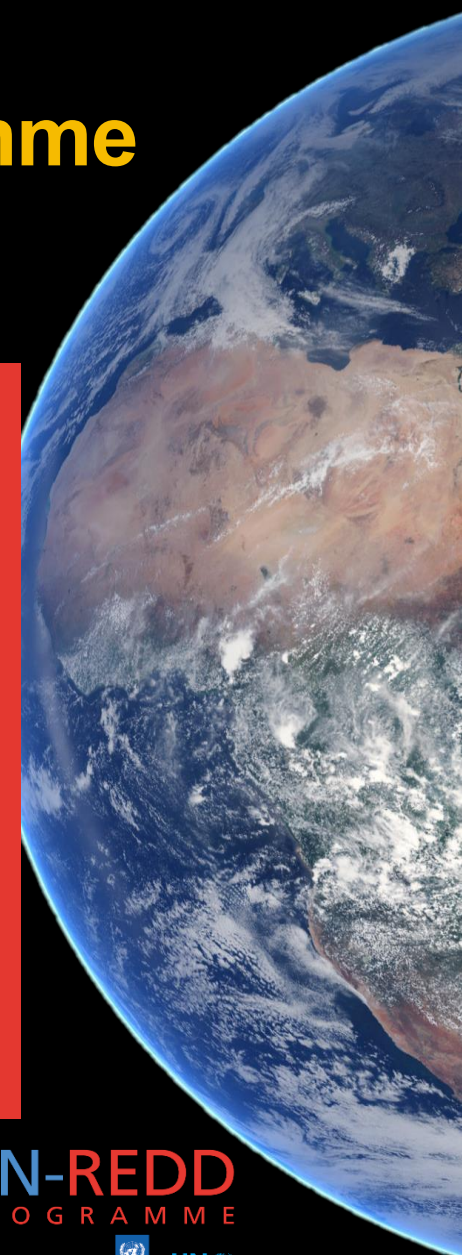
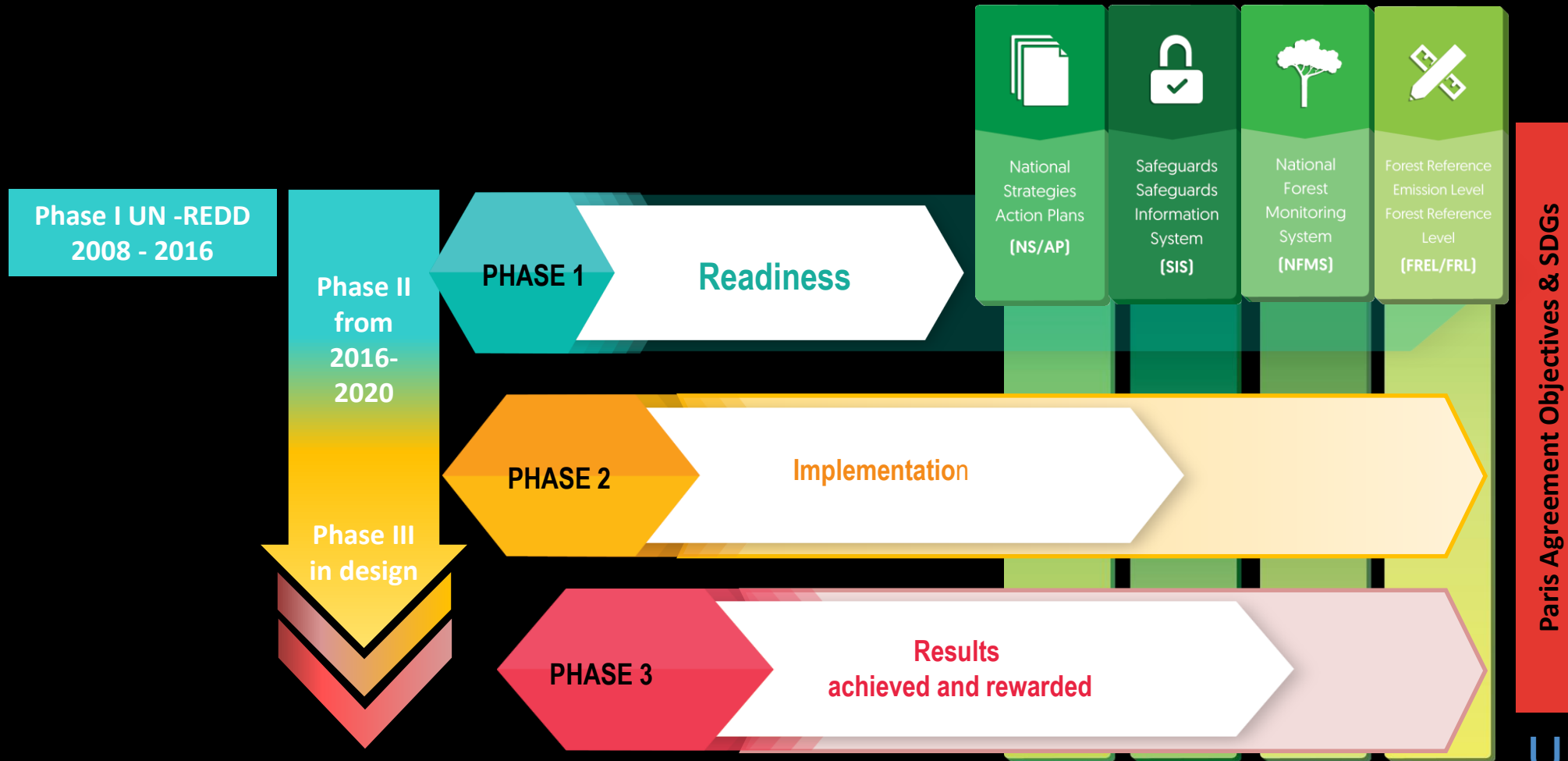
But... there REDD+ had to battle some headwinds against it:

- **Political attention** away from climate change and REDD+ (trade, refugees and migration)
- Push back from some industries (**actors**)
- Frustrations caused **by slow progress** in REDD+
- **Funds** are not universally available, common rules not established, **capacities** were not there
- REDD+ **should be built from bottom up** - **but rarely taken at local scale**
- **Technology** has proved to be transformational and game changer, but not applied universally





REDD+ evolution and the UN – REDD Programme



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What has REDD+ achieved?

40

countries
are developing
NFMS and
NFIs (5
completed)

39

45
submissions
of **Reference
Emission
Levels** to the
UNFCCC

15

15
safeguards
summaries of
information
submitted to
the UNFCCC
and **14 SIS**
'online'

17

countries
have
advanced
with their
**policy and
legal
frameworks**

12

countries
have made
progress
building
**REDD+/
FLEG
synergies**

10

countries
have
progressed
or
completed
assessments
of their
**tenure
regimes**

12

**12 REDD+
results**
submissions
(9
countries),
a total of
8.8 bln tCO₂
emission
reductions

50

50 countries
have
included
**REDD+ in
their NDCs**

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Where do we take it from now?

Recognition of the intermediate results of REDD+

Few reflections on:

- ✓ Capacity needs
- ✓ The role of technology and tools
- ✓ New finance opportunities
- ✓ Barriers to transformational role of REDD+

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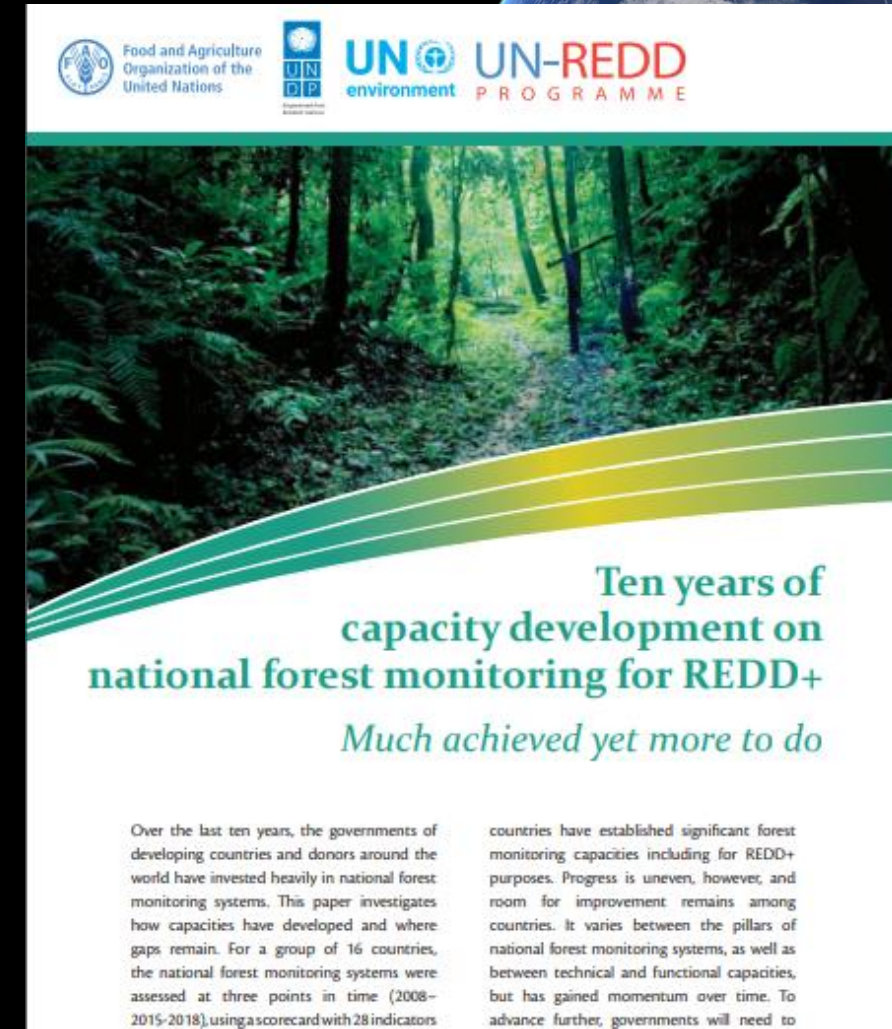
Capacity development for REDD+: a case of forest monitoring

Much effort has been dedicated to national forest monitoring, since 2008 especially in the context of REDD+

Headline success: 39 countries have submitted forest reference levels to the UNFCCC

But what are the underlying changes in forest monitoring capacity?

And where are the remaining gaps?



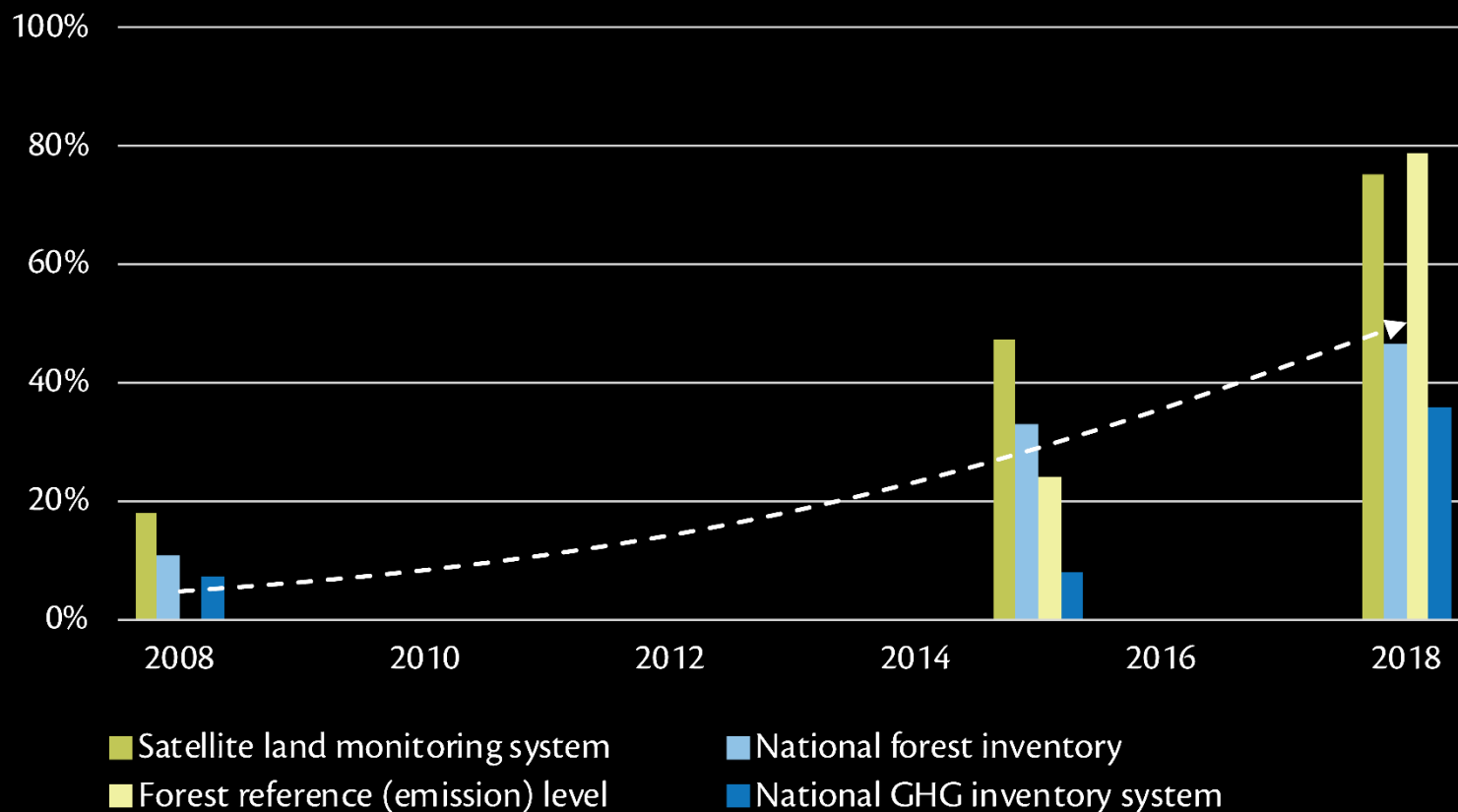
Over the last ten years, the governments of developing countries and donors around the world have invested heavily in national forest monitoring systems. This paper investigates how capacities have developed and where gaps remain. For a group of 16 countries, the national forest monitoring systems were assessed at three points in time (2008–2015–2018), using a scorecard with 28 indicators

countries have established significant forest monitoring capacities including for REDD+ purposes. Progress is uneven, however, and room for improvement remains among countries. It varies between the pillars of national forest monitoring systems, as well as between technical and functional capacities, but has gained momentum over time. To advance further, governments will need to



Country capacity in monitoring has grown rapidly over the past 10 years

Percentage of capacity indicators rated as ★★ or ★★★, summed for 16 countries



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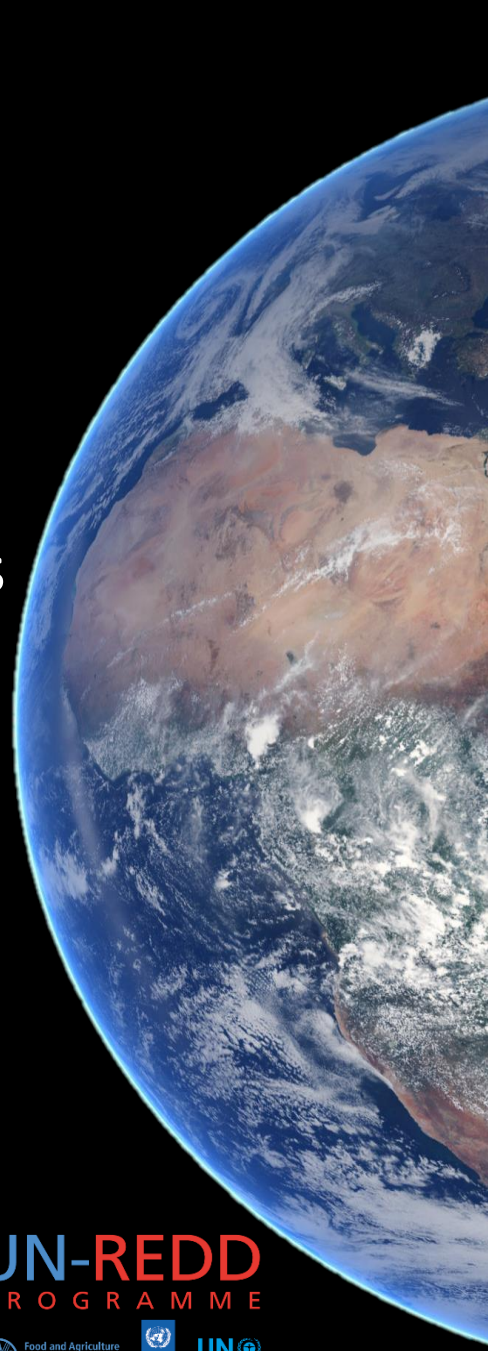
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Possible focus of capacity development in REDD+

- Capacity development is needed not only for REDD+ Readiness but for all phases of REDD+
- Broader topics (benefit-sharing, carbon rights, carbon finance and offsets options, jurisdictional and nesting approaches)
- Broader target groups at all levels - increasing commitment of non-state actors and private sector, local governments, communities



**Remote sensing
can be a game changer
-- new tools by FAO**



OPENFORIS

A man in a red plaid shirt and blue cap, carrying a large backpack, is looking at a smartphone in a forest. The background is a blurred green forest.

TRAINING WORKSHOPS GLOBALLY

SEPAL is a cloud-based platform,
relies on remote supercomputers,
enables access to satellite images,
autonomous data collection, results
generation, and reporting...

anywhere.





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SEPAL on the go



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Mobile and tablet compatibility



Search and process
satellite imagery



Access super computers



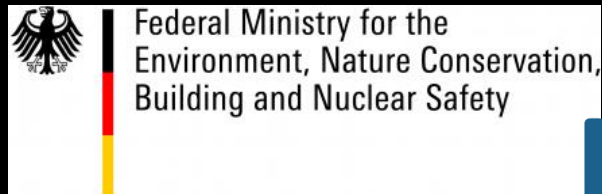
Store and access data



Analyze data using
predefined processing
chains



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New opportunities for REDD+ finance

**Enhance Access to International Funding to
enhance REDD+ investments**

Ex. GCF REDD+ SAP Cote d'Ivoire, Zambia, Guinea
Congo, Nepal, Honduras

Trigger Private Sector Investment

Ex. **EcoTierra**, an impact investment
fund in the agro-forestry sector
Investment Plans (ex. **E. Guinea**)

**Advisory on carbon financing
and pricing & benefit sharing**

Ex.: **Vietnam** PES -carbon markets
Laos, LAC countries on carbon rights)

**REDD+ Result-Based
Payments**

GCF RBPs: **Chile, Brazil, Ecuador,
Paraguay (Colombia, Argentina,
PNG)**

Access Carbon Markets

Blended Finance Initiatives

Ex. The TTLF, the Green Impact Facility

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FAO-CIFOR project on transformational change in REDD+ (2017-2020)

- In many ways transformation become a key concept in development assistance, with most agencies aspiring to deliver “transformational change”
- Project objective: to increase the understanding of barriers and triggers in REDD+ transformative impact





Barriers of transformational change in REDD+

- Inequalities and fragmentation of interests
- Industry and private sector not enough involved and not reflexive
- Direction of transformation change is 2-ways (bottom-up & top-down)
- Land tenure - central part of transformational change in REDD+
- Aspiration to achieve scale, speed and depth in REDD+-
CHALLENGE in achieving all three dimension!





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Final remarks: Tailwinds for REDD+, lets continue the change!

- Emerging opportunities in carbon finance
- Continue efforts in capacity development for REDD+
- Application of tools and technologies at scale
- Build innovative partnerships as commitment of non-state actors and private sector is increasing





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Thank you!

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